



## GRADING POLICY

### Central Coast Football Policy

Central Coast Football (CCF) recommend that clubs grade players in the following ways:

- Under 5-7 – as these games are non-competition, no grading should take place
- Under 8, 9, 10 & 11 – whilst still being non-competition, these players should be graded into teams with other players of similar ability.
- All other divisions – players must be graded into teams based on their ability.

More information about CCF rules and regulations can be found at:

<https://ccfootball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Rules-and-Regulations-2017.pdf>

### General Information

Muster Day (U5-7) and Grading Days (U8-18) will be advertised on the Club website and at registration days. Players in all age groups must attend the relevant sessions to be placed into teams.

Grading for players in U8-18 age groups will be conducted by a grading committee consisting of the relevant Age Coordinator and at least two (2) other independent members of the Club. Coaches may be asked to assist with the grading process, but the final decision on player grading will rest with the grading committee.

The grading process for U8-18 players will involve at least 2-3 sessions for each age group, where the grading committee will watch players performing a range of skills and modified games.

Players may also be required to attend trial games against other clubs as part of the grading process. Teams that players are allocated to for trial games are not the teams that players will be graded in for the season. Players, parents and coaches should be aware that a player may be changed to another team after trial games have been completed.

Players unable to attend grading days or trial games should notify the relevant Age Coordinator as soon as possible. Players and their parents must realise that it is difficult to accurately grade players who do not attend all sessions. While the grading committee will attempt to place all players into an appropriate team, the Club will not accept appeals from players who feel that they have been incorrectly graded if they have not attended all grading sessions.

After the conclusion of the grading process, the relevant Age Coordinator will ensure that teams are listed on the Club website, and will attempt to ensure that each team has a coach and manager allocated

and listed with the teams on the club website where possible. It is the responsibility of the player and their parents to check for information about the team into which they have been graded.

### **Playing in a Higher Age Group**

All players must register in their correct age group. Players wishing to play in a higher age group must gain the approval of the Football Committee. Players will only be considered to play in a higher age group if they have sufficient physical, mental and playing ability to do so. The Football Committee will also consider the number of registered players in both the player's age group and the higher age group to ensure that team numbers are not adversely affected by the player moving to the higher age group.

### **Non-Competition Grading**

Non-Competition Under 5 – 7:

- a) Players in the U5-7 age groups must attend the Muster Day to be placed into teams;
- b) Players will be placed into teams by a selection committee comprising of the Non-Competition Coordinator for 5-7 Year Olds and at least two (2) other members of the committee;
- c) Each U5-7 team will consist of a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) mixed players (male and female). Games for these age groups comprise a small sided game format, with a maximum of 4 players on the field at any one time;
- d) Players will be placed into teams based on friendships and logistics to ensure maximum enjoyment.

Non-Competition Under 8-9:

- a) Players in the U8 & 9 age groups must attend the relevant grading days and trial games to be placed into teams;
- b) Players will be placed into teams by a grading committee comprising of the Non-Competition Coordinator for 8-9 Year Olds and at least two (2) other independent members of the Club;
- c) Each U8 & U9 team will consist of a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of ten (10) mixed players (male and female). Games for these age groups comprise a small sided game format, with a maximum of seven (7) players on the field at any one time;
- d) Players will be graded to play with players of similar ability, particularly in the top two teams in each age group;
- e) In the U8 & 9 age groups, some consideration will be made for players wishing to play with friends or in cases where a player needs to be in a specific team for transport or logistics reasons. However, these considerations will not be made for the top two teams in the age group.

Non-Competition Under 10-11:

- a) Players in the U10 & 11 age groups must attend the relevant grading days and trial games to be placed into teams;
- b) Players will be placed into teams by a grading committee comprising of the Non-Competition Coordinator for 10-11 Year Olds and at least two (2) other independent members of the Club;
- c) Each U10 & U11 team will consist of a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of twelve (12) mixed players (male and female). Games for these age groups comprise a small sided game format, with a maximum of nine (9) players on the field at any one time;
- d) Players will be graded to play with players of similar ability across all teams in these age groups

in preparation for playing in competition formats. There will be no consideration made for players wishing to play with friends or to play in a specific team.

### **Junior Competition Grading – Mixed Teams U12-14, Girls Teams U15-18 & Boys Teams U15-18**

*PLEASE NOTE: Girls 15 years and older are only eligible to play in SUNDAY Women's Competitions.*

- a) Players in the U12-18 age groups must attend the relevant grading days and trial games to be placed into teams;
- b) Players will be placed into teams by a grading committee comprising of the relevant Age Coordinator and at least two (2) other independent members of the Club (U12-14 Mixed teams and U15-16 Boys teams will be coordinated by the Junior Men's Competition Representative; U15-18 Girls teams will be coordinated by the Women's Competition Representative; U18 Boys teams will be coordinated by the Senior Men's Competition Representative);
- c) Each team will consist of a minimum of twelve (12) and a maximum of sixteen (16) players;
- d) Players will be graded to play with players of similar ability across all teams in these age groups.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade Squads - Women & Men**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Squads for both Men and Women (1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Reserve Grade & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade or AA1) will be graded at training and during trial games by the coaching staff. Players not selected will be offered a place in an All Age team subject to their ability and space available in teams.

### **All Age Women & Men, O35's & O45's**

There is no set grading rules for these divisions. It is the responsibility of the individual coaches of each team to organise grading and selection in consultation with the Senior Men's Competition Representative OR the Women's Competition Representative.

Players moving down from a higher division from the previous year that they played will need the approval of the Football Committee to play in the lower grade.

### **Grading Appeals Process**

Any disputes arising out of grading will be dealt with by the Football Committee.

Once teams have been listed on the Club website, any player or parent of a player under the age of 18 who has a concern about the grading process or the decision of the grading committee should address their concerns in writing to the Football Chairman.

The Football Chairman will review the information provided by the parent /player and the notes taken by the grading committee, and will make a final decision on the outcome of the player grading in consultation with the relevant Age Coordinator in a timely manner.

All disputes and concerns about grading should be sent to [secretary@kincumberroosfc.com.au](mailto:secretary@kincumberroosfc.com.au)