



Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club INCORPORATED

NEVER TAKING A BACKWARD STEP

Grading Policy

Background and overall policy

Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club (The Club) was founded and operates successfully as a family based club providing a sporting, recreational and social environment for those interested to learn, participate, develop and enjoy the team sport of soccer.

The club's overall policy is that the grading of players, although encouraged, is done on a voluntary basis, subject to the rules and procedures set out below.

The Committee has the care and, to some extent, control of the Club and its' members/players and it is the Club, rather than individuals, which enters teams into various competitions.

Team Grading

Blacktown District Soccer Football Association (BDSFA) under its By-laws requires the club to nominate teams into grades for all "competition" ages (i.e. from Under 12 and above). This is done at the beginning of each season by the Football Committee, based on the teams entered in each age bracket. Factors considered include:

- Previous year performance
- Experience and skill level of players within the team
- Requests and information from team coaches from the previous season

Although the BLACKTOWN DISTRICT SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (BDSFA) only requires team grading from Under 12 and above, the club recommends that if there is sufficient interest, player grading should commence from Under 8 and within the parameters outlined under Player grading policy.

The club will strive to compete at the highest possible levels within the BDSFA competition and within each age group.

First division premiers are required to participate and represent our local association, BDSFA, in state (NSW) competition(s). This could involve travel to other participating districts within NSW.

The Football Committee shall be approved by the QHJSC Management Committee (M.C.). The Football Committee may invite returning coaches to assist. Coaches will only be brought in at the end just to cast an eye over the team. If he/she wishes to have changes made it must have substantial merit and the final decision will be made by the Football Committee and the M.C.

Coaches *cannot* grade the age group they expect to coach during the season.





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Player Grading

Grading is strongly encouraged but not limited to the highest graded team in each age group, under 12 and above. Individual players must be available for grading whether or not they wish to participate in grading on the understanding that players attending grading will have the best opportunity to be placed in skill appropriate team(s) and division.

Grading is held by age group, over one (1) or more sessions as advised by the Football Committee.

If a player does not attend grading, they will be graded based on their previous year performance (returning players only).

If a new/or old player does not attend grading, they will automatically be graded into the lowest division. Unless they have contacted the club and given an acceptable reason.

Grading is based on small sided games, played on a reduced size field relevant to the age group being assessed.

At the conclusion of the grading process, the Football Committee shall meet to review and discuss the formation and allocation of individual players to each team. Where practicable, any member of the grading committee or coach shall not undertake an active role in the grading of their child.

Generally, grading is conducted within the following parameters:-

- Grading from U12 and over is mandatory and dependent upon numbers attending. Players who attend grading, however, will have the best opportunity to be placed in a skill appropriate team and further develop their skills.
- Where players attend grading above their age group, the grading panel should, within the first session if possible, inform any players who are unlikely to be selected. It is compulsory for players to attend grading in their own age group prior to attending the higher age group
- Where vacancies occur in a graded team after grading, the opportunity to fill that vacancy should be sought within the club before proceeding with transfers from another club. The club registrar should be notified of any such vacancies. New players to the club arriving after grading has been completed must be placed in a lower division and then assessed by the Football Committee





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Grading Process

Dates, times and locations are published before hand on the QHJSC web site. The grading process may also include participation in pre-season trial games.

All players must be registered as QHJSC players before they are eligible to take part in grading sessions.

The following is the process to be followed:

- The Football Committee will, wherever possible, appoint the team coach prior to the commencement of the grading process. However if the Coach has a relative trialling for the team it must be determined by the Football Committee that the player will be selected before the Coach has input into the team selection.
- The Football Committee generally comprises of at least 5 experienced club members is formed for each age group. Players and parents of junior players will be provided with a letter (see appendix 1) outlining the main aspects of the grading process and the responsibilities of graded players. (See section “Players who are graded” below for more details)
- Players are required to attend at least all grading sessions plus pre-season trials unless otherwise advised by the Football Committee
- In circumstances where players are of similar ability, selection preference will be given to players who played with the club in the previous football season, and to player’s trialling in their correct age group.
- The Football Committee will promptly advise the Management Committee the order in which the players have been selected. The Management Committee will make the final decision taking into account the number of players registered. Once the decision is final the QHJSC Registrar will be informed so that all other players can be allocated to teams as necessary.
- A player who is unable to attend the scheduled grading sessions, or registers late due to unavoidable circumstances, may apply to the Football Committee to be assessed at a later date. If the current team numbers allow, the Football Committee will assess the player at a training session or a trial game, and determine if the player is suitable in comparison to the players that were unsuccessful at the grading sessions.
- Where players trial for a specialised position i.e. goal keeper should they be selected for that position they cannot then refuse to play the position. In the event of this occurring the player will be demoted to the lower division and the player deemed to be next in line by the grading results will be promoted.





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- If a player wishes to be selected in a team with another player the Football Committee will try to accommodate that request wherever possible, and generally both players will be placed in the team of the lower graded player.
- All endeavours will be made to complete the process as quickly as possible and prior to finalisation of team nominations for the upcoming season.

The Football Committee looks for the following attributes:

- Striking the ball
- First touch
- 1V1
- Running with the ball
- Ball control: dribbling, trapping, passing, shooting, shielding
- Speed, fitness & coordination
- Defending and tackling ability
- Positional sense

Note: Goalkeepers are assessed separately

Team Numbers

- Under 5, 6, 7 - A minimum of 4 players and a maximum 7 players will be selected for any graded team (no goal keeper)
- Under 8-9 - A minimum of 7 players and a maximum 11 players will be selected for any graded team.
- Under 10-11 - A minimum of 9 players and a maximum 13 players will be selected for any graded team.
- Under 12 and above -A minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 16 players will be selected for any graded team.





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- When there is insufficient numbers for the non-graded teams in any age group, only the minimum number may be selected. As registration numbers increase, positions in the graded team may be offered to players that attended grading but were initially unsuccessful.

Players who are graded

The following are conditions that graded players and parents will be required to comply with:

- Players and parents are to comply with the club's Code of Conduct.
- 1st division premier teams are expected to participate and represent the local association in state competitions. This may involve travel to other participating districts within NSW.
- Players are selected into a team, not a position the only exception being the Goal Keeper. A player's position may be changed to suit the needs of the team, as determined by the Coach this includes the Goal Keeper.
- Training will be set by the team coach. Players are expected to attend all sessions, wearing appropriate training gear. Appropriate footwear and shin pads are compulsory. Junior players are to be accompanied by at least one parent/carer at training and at games.
- All players are expected to participate positively and enthusiastically at training and comply with the directions of the coach and/or manager.
- If a player continually disrupts a training session the player may be asked to leave that session. If such disruption recurs on a regular basis, the player may be dropped from the team.
- The coach is not to be questioned during the match. The coach may be approached after the game has finished, in the presence of an independent witness.
- Players are obliged to notify the coach/manager as early as possible if they are unable to attend training or a game. It is the responsibility of the parents of junior players to comply with this requirement.
- Any disputes regarding the grading process should be referred to the Football Committee or the Management Committee and in all cases should be in writing.
- Any issues members have with their children playing under a particular coach must be dealt with before grading/training begins.





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Players who do not want to play first division

Players who do not wish to be considered for first grade will be placed in a lower graded team by the Football Committee. Where possible the player's wishes regarding which particular team he or she wants to be placed in will be taken into account. However final team content of lower graded teams will be determined by the Football Committee to satisfy the best interests of the majority.

Disputes and final grading decisions

The Management Committee makes the final decision regarding any grading dispute.

Appeals

- Any appeal to the Football Committee decision must be submitted in writing and addressed to the Management Committee.
- Any submission must include a parent or guardian name, contact phone number, child's name and age group as well as the circumstance or nature of the appeal.
- Any appeal lodged will be reviewed by the Football Committee and Management Committee whose decision will be final.
- Any verbal approach will not be considered.

Appendix 1 – Letter to be given to parents/players involved in grading





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Thank you for attending our grading session. Grading is being undertaken using the guidelines outlined in the club's grading policy which is available on our website. (www.qhjsc.com.au).

Generally the grading of teams can take up to 7 days to finalise after the grading session/s. The teams coach will promptly contact all parents to notify you of the team your child is in. Please refrain from contacting the club during these 7 days to enquire about team placements.

If you would like your child to be in a team with another specific player please notify a committee member at the registration desk.

Listed below are some of the conditions that you are expected to abide by should you/your child be selected to play at Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club. Should you need any clarification of these conditions please ask prior to the grading session/s.

- Players and parents are to comply with the club's Code of Conduct which is available on the QHJSC website at www.qhjsc.com.au.
- Players are required to attend all grading sessions plus pre-season trials unless otherwise advised by the Football Committee.
- In circumstances where players are of similar ability, selection preference will be given to players who played with the club in the previous football season, and to players' trialling in their correct age group.
- 1st division premier teams are required to represent the local association in state competitions. This may involve travel to other participating districts within NSW.
- Players are selected into a team, not a position the only exception being the Goal Keeper (see next item). A player's position may be changed to suit the needs of the team, as determined by the coach, this includes the Goal Keeper.
- If a player trials for a specialised position i.e. Goal Keeper and they be selected for that position they cannot then refuse to play that position. In the event of this occurring the player will be demoted to the lower division and the player deemed to be next in line by the grading results will be promoted.
- Training will be set by the team coach. Players are expected to attend all sessions, wearing appropriate training gear. Boots and shin pads are compulsory. Junior players are to be accompanied by at least one parent/carer at training and at games.



- All players are expected to participate positively and enthusiastically at training and comply with the directions of the coach and/or manager.
- If a player continually disrupts a training session the player may be asked to leave that session. If such disruption recurs on a regular basis, the player may be dropped from the team.
- The coach is not to be questioned during the match. The coach may be approached after the game has finished, in the presence of an independent witness.
- The Coach will endeavour to give equal time over the season
- Players are obliged to notify the coach/manager as early as possible if they are unable to attend training or a game.
- It is the responsibility of the parents of junior players to comply with this requirement.
- Any disputes regarding the grading process or unfair treatment of a player during the season should be referred to the Technical Director or the Management Committee and in all cases should be in writing.
- Note that player attitude, team spirit, attendance at training and games will be considered when selecting a player.

Please explain these conditions to your child should he/she be selected.

Thank you, we hope all players and families enjoy the season ahead.

QHJSC Football Committee
Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club.

Throughout the season the club will provide communication by the following means:

Website: www.qhjsc.com.au

Facebook page: Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club

App for Smart Phones: