

PHOS Camden (Junior) Football Club

Player Management Policy



Context

At the core of our club is the maintenance of equity of opportunity to play football. This has a profound impact on the self-esteem of players, the development of their skills, fitness and understanding of the game. The spirit of equity is that all players have the same opportunity to develop and enjoy their football. We acknowledge that as our players move through the age groups the implementation of equity may vary, however the fundamental principles of fairness will remain.

Training and General Coaching Objectives

Proposed training nights for all teams will be advised once coaches are appointed. Coaches must be advised in advance if players are unable to train. Failure to comply with this request may impact selection and game time provided to that player on game day, at the discretion of the coach.

The club recognises the need to find balance between junior football/ schooling/ other sporting commitments. Should a player have other significant training commitments external to PCJFC, the player and/or parents are encouraged to discuss any need for a modified training program with the coach.

In the under 8-10 age groups the focus of coaches will be on encouraging continued participation in the sport. Participation, fun, skill development, team work, equal playing time and exposure to playing in all positions will be the main objectives of coaches.

In the under 11-12 age groups the above objectives still apply, however at this age some players may spend more time in positions that suite their physical attributes and skills rather than being systematically played in all positions. It is still expected that players are given as even playing time as possible.

In the under 13-16 age groups skill development becomes more focussed on giving the players the platform to continue on in football at a higher level and senior football. It is recognised that it may not always be in the best interests of a successful team culture to equalise game time, however, there should still be an underlying objective to share and maximise playing time for all players.

Player Rotation and Selection

If team lists extend past the maximum number able to field at a game, some players will be required to be rostered off each week during the season. If possible, Coaches and Team Managers should give parents and players the opportunity to advise in advance any times of unavailability to ensure these games missed are counted as games rostered off. It is expected that all players will be rotated equitably throughout the season.

For the under 8-14 age groups, players should be rostered off equally as much as possible. In the older age groups coaches should try and manage games rostered off to be equal as much as possible, however the final discretion will be left with the coach.

An accurate record of dates when players were rostered off is required to be maintained by all coaches.

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Match Day

Metro South by-laws determine the maximum number of players that can be fielded on each game day:

- Under 8,9,10,11,12,13,14, as set by the rules of the SANFL
- Under 15-16.5 as set by the rules of the SANFL

In Under 8,9 and 10 age groups, all players should play a minimum of 3 quarters each game.

In Under 11 to 16.5, all players should play a minimum of 2 quarters each game in total playing time.

Poor training attendance may result in the above being altered at the discretion of the coach.

Finals (Under 11 – Under 16.5)

It is generally recognised that finals football is different from the home and away games. The following principles will apply:

- An opportunity for as many players as possible to experience finals football.
- An understanding that player selection and playing time for individual players gives the team the best possible opportunity to win.
- The Coach will have full discretion over the length of playing time that individual players will have on the field and the time each player spends on the bench.
- An understanding that the policy will provide coaches a greater scope for varying playing time for individual players than in a home and away game.
- The Coach will endeavour to give the team the best possible chance to win finals games.
- The entire squad will be required to train during the finals period; however the best available team will be selected on merit for each game.

Managing Children's Behaviour

Players and coaches are expected to adhere to the PCJFC codes of behaviour at all times.

The PCJFC support and adopt the Australian Sports Commission's strategies for dealing with inappropriate behaviour as outlined on their internet site:

http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/coaches/tools/coaching_children/Behaviour

This document was endorsed by the PHOS Camden (Junior) Football Club committee on 17th January 2018. It can be amended by the committee at any time, however in the absence of changes it will be reviewed again on 4th March 2022.