

Western Spirit Football Club

Policy 04 – Grading Guidelines

The following guidelines have been developed for players, parents and coaches to inform them of the grading policies of the club.

We ask that you trust our ability and honesty in selections. The word grading is used in reference to the placement of players into “like skilled” groups i.e. where they are conformable to play in.

In General

Grading unfortunately, must take place in a very short window of time, approximately two weeks. Parents can help by encouraging players and their friends to register early and by having, players attend all grading sessions.

Grading Decisions

Grading is basically an opinion, some players will pick themselves, they will stand out and this is usually due to any early physical or personal skill development.

It is the policy of this Club to re-grade players every year, so every junior player has the opportunity to progress.

It is important to note that juniors differ in their ability to acquire skills and move through the various stage of development. The club encourages parents and players not to focus on which team a player is in, rather on the player’s own football development.

In competitive teams the selection of players will be the responsibility of the Director of Coaching, who may wish to keep training several more players that the team requires so as making his final selections as fair as possible.

The aim of the club is to grade the players as fairly as possible. Some parents place undue pressure on their children by expecting them to always be in the top team. We can suggest that parents help their children through the grading process by being supportive. Our request is that, in cases where is parent is in disagreement with the end result that they accept the final decision of the Club’s officials.

SSG & Rooball – Under 6 to Under 10

Under 6 to Under 10 players will not be graded. Players will be placed in teams with their friends within their age group. No consideration will be given to a player’s skill level.

If there are too many players wishing to play in the same team in Under 6 to Under 10, preference will be given to those players who played together in the same team in the previous year.

Players who register with the club after the advertised sign-on dates will be put into whichever team has room to accommodate them.

Divisional Teams – Under 11 to Under 16

In these age groups, players will go through a formal grading process. Players will be placed into teams that suit their ability. Only players who are registered with Western Spirit Football Club can participate in training/assessment or grading sessions.

The club will make every endeavour to ensure all divisional teams to place teams in the highest division possible according to the skills of the players in the team.

Too Many Players in One Age Group

The club will make every endeavour to place registered players into a team. In a small number of instances this may mean that a player may have to be offered the option of “playing up” into a higher age group team if that is the only place left available.

This option will only be taken with the full consent of the player and parents and only if the club assessor believes that the player can handle the physical, psychological and emotional issues of playing in a higher age group. Where it is not possible to create teams for that age group, registrations will be declined and all fees paid will be refunded, less their registration fee. NB Registration fee will be refunded by Football Brisbane directly.

Insufficient Numbers

Where the situation arises that there are insufficient numbers of players to enable a particular team to be fielded in an age group, the playing up option will be explored, and failing that, registrations will be declined and all fees paid will be refunded, less their registration fee. NB Registration fee will be refunded by Football Brisbane directly.

Club Grading

Players will be graded on their individual abilities and will be overseen by the Director of Coaching.

The Player

We welcome all players from all clubs and will not discriminate against any player from any club. Players will be selected for their playing ability in their nominated positions.