



FOOTBALL
QUEENSLAND

Policy Document

Player Age Policy

Purpose

This policy sets guidelines under which a player may compete or train in activities conducted for players of an age higher or lower than the player's playing age.

Principles

Players should be encouraged to play in their correct age group unless special circumstances apply.

The Policy acknowledges the principle role of the parent or guardian in deciding that a player should play in a different age competition than the one determined by the player's age.

Players, through their Guardian(s), may wish to play up, and in doing enhance their football skills or provide enjoyment to the player. In special circumstances it may be appropriate that a player should be able to play down.

Players shall only be permitted to play up when their physical capacity and social sense enable them to compete adequately at the higher age level. A player shall be permitted to play down only when their physical capacity and social sense are suitable to the lower level.

The decision whether a player should play up, should be based on the advantages to the player. The decision as to whether a player is able to play down must also consider the other players in the competition or training session.

Competing in too many games or training sessions can be detrimental to the development of a player as a footballer.

Minimum Age

The minimum age of any registered player eligible to participate in any match/fixture or competition shall be five (5) years. To be sure, eligibility shall not be met until the player has reached 5 years of age.

Permission to Play Up or Down

Prior to competing or training at a different age level, the permission of a player's parent or guardian must be obtained in writing, on prescribed form PA 01.

Players requesting to play down an age group must also submit a written application to Football Queensland supported by appropriate evidence. This may involve a further assessment process.

Where there is not a competition in every age group, a player may play into the next available age group, without assessment. Parent or guardian permission on prescribed form PA 01 is required.



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Where there is a competition in every age group, players are eligible to play in the next available age group, without assessment. Parent or guardian permission on prescribed form PA 01 is required.

Players requesting to play two years or more above their age group must be approved by Football Queensland. Parent or guardian permission on prescribed form PA 01 is required together with a written application and supporting evidence.

Exceptional Circumstances

A player may not compete or train in an open competition unless they have attained the age of fifteen (15) for males and fourteen (14) for females. Where a parent seeks relief from this provision, variations must be approved by Football Queensland on receipt of supporting information. This clause is to be read in addition to, not in place of, earlier requirements. To be sure, a player falling under exceptional consideration provisions is still required to comply with the approval process.

DEFINITIONS

Player is a Registered Participant in a football competition sanctioned by Football Queensland. A junior player is one who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years at the time of signing on.

Player Age is determined by the year of birth of the player in accordance with the scale below:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Players born 2002	U7	U8	U9	U10
Players born 2001	U8	U9	U10	U11
Players born 2000	U9	U10	U11	U12
Players born 1999	U10	U11	U12	U13
Players born 1998	U11	U12	U13	U14
Players born 1997	U12	U13	U14	U15
Players born 1996	U13	U14	U15	U16
Players born 1995	U14	U15	U16	U17
Players born 1994	U15	U16	U17	U18
Players born 1993	U16	U17	U18	U19
Players born 1992	U17	U18	U19	Open Age
Players born 1991	U18	U19	Open Age	
Players born 1990	U19	Open Age		
Players born 1989+	Open Age			

To Play Up is to compete or train either regularly or casually in a competition of a higher chronological age than the first available competition for that player.

To Play Down is to compete or train, either regularly or casually, in a competition or training session conducted for players of a lower chronological age.



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Application for Permission to Participate at Different Age Level

Player's Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Zone: _____ **Club:** _____

Current Age Level: _____

I request that my son / daughter be permitted to compete or train with the following age levels:

I agree to indemnify and to keep indemnified Football Queensland or any of its associated entities of any Legal proceedings resulting from my son's or daughter's participation in a different age division.

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____



Player Age Policy – Senior Football

Club Guidelines

Football Queensland has in place a Player Age Policy, to cover the issue of players playing out of their usual age grouping. Football Brisbane has subsequently adopted the following policies and procedures relating to registration of junior players wishing to train and play in senior competitions under the jurisdiction of Football Brisbane. Clubs must read the Football Brisbane Policy in conjunction with the Football Queensland Player Age Policy.

Clubs are reminded that the purpose of this policy is to ensure that we exercise our Duty of Care to young players in as comprehensive manner. In carrying out and conforming to this policy clubs should pay only secondary consideration to the needs and wants of the club itself.

SENIOR MEN

Attained Age	Competition	Requirements
17	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01)
17	Under 21 Competition	Parental Consent (PA 01)
17	All Open age (All divisions)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
16	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01)
16	Under 21 Competition	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
16	Open Age (Metro Divisions)	Not eligible
16	Open age (Premier Divisions only)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
15	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment FB Zone Council Approval
15	Under 21 Competition	Not eligible
15	Open Age (Non Premier Divisions)	Not eligible
15	Open age (Premier Divisions only)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment FB Zone Council Approval

The policy means that a player must have attained 17 years of age to train and play in all Senior Men's open age competitions.

A player who has attained the age of 16 years may be eligible to train and play open age football with Premier Division clubs **only**, with Parental Consent and FQ assessment, but is not eligible to play in the Metropolitan competitions.

Applications for Dispensation

A player who has attained the age of 15 years may be eligible to train and play in the Youth (Under 18) Competition or Open Age (Premier Divisions only) with Parental Consent, FQ assessment and Zone Council approval.

Applications for dispensation should include comprehensive documentation, including player history and levels of achievement with FQ assessment. Such submissions are made to the Zone Council of Football Brisbane.

There will be no dispensation for players younger than the ages stated in the Football Queensland policy.

SENIOR WOMEN

Attained Age	Competition	Requirements
17	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01)
17	Open age	Parental Consent (PA 01)
16	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01)
16	All open age	Parental Consent (PA01) FQ Assessment
15	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
15	Open age	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
14	Youth Competition (Under 18)	Parental Consent (PA 01) FQ Assessment
14	Open age	Not Eligible

The policy means that a player must have attained 15 years of age to train and play in all Senior Women's open age competitions provided the above requirements are met.

Applications for Dispensation

A player who has attained the age of 14 year may be eligible to train and play in the Youth or Open age competitions upon application.

Applications for dispensation should include comprehensive documentation, including player history and levels of achievement with FQ assessment. Such submissions are made to the Zone Council of Football Brisbane.

There will be no dispensation for players younger than the ages stated in the Football Queensland policy.