

JUNIOR TEAM SELECTION POLICY

Our commitment

We believe that junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and maximise individual participation. Our club acknowledges that positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of sport.

What we will do

- Emphasise to coaches and parents that junior sport is about participation, not competition.
- Include children and young people of all abilities and encourage their participation.
- Provide junior players with a broad range of experiences (e.g. participating in different positions).
- Provide fair and reasonable playing time for all juniors, regardless of their ability.
- Ensure that all team members play in the finals.
- Try to balance ability levels across junior teams where there are sufficient players to have more than one team in a division.
- Assemble a selection panel, comprising the Head Coach (or their representative), Junior Coordinator and all prospective coaches for that division. A proxy may be appointed for any coach who cannot be present.
- Every effort will be made to cater for player requests to play with friends. The make up of teams will be at the discretion of the selection panel in consultation with the Head Coach/Club Management Committee.
- In the event that there are either too few or too many players for a team/s in any particular age group, placement of returning Labrador juniors into a team in their age group will be given priority.

What we ask you to do

Coaches

- Focus on promoting participation, not winning and losing.
- Ensure all team members have the chance to play, rotate through positions and receive equal playing time.
- If you coach your own children, treat them like all other team members (eg. rotations, playing time or participation).

Parents

- Focus on your child's effort and performance, not the score.
- Encourage your child and other team members.
- Respect the selection decisions of the coach.