



# **Narrabeen Football Club**

Grading & Team Formation Policy,  
Procedures and Guidelines 2018

# Grading days

2 Sundays in February as per sporting ground allocation from Northern Beaches Council (Boondah playing fields).

## **Number of required graders for age groups:**

U9 – U11            Minimum of 8 and no more than 12

U12 – U16           Minimum of 4 and no more than 6

The requirements and schedule for any given grading day will consist of the following:

- ☐ The required amount of correctly numbered training bibs for all grading players for each session. All set out ready prior to grading commencement.
- ☐ The correct number of grading score sheets to be available on clipboards for each grading session.
- ☐ Each grader to take a score sheet and fill out the group details, names and all other required information on score sheet for the group the grader has been allocated.
- ☐ The player grading score sheet is to stay with the group it is allocated to throughout each of the stations for each station grader to complete grading scores.
- ☐ All graders will be allocated one station and they will remain on that same station for the entire session.
- ☐ At the completion of scoring a particular group, the score sheet is to be turned upside-down and given to player wearing bib No 1 to be taken to the next station and handed to the next station grader. Note, the Grading Coordinator may also collect score sheets and hand to next station when moving groups around from station to station.
- ☐ Each player group will start at a particular station and rotate through all stations until they have completed all stations set out.

## **1st Sunday session – 18 February 2018**

9:30am – 12 noon	Under 9's	Skill assessments & Game
12:30 – 2:30pm	Under 10's	Skill assessments & Game
2:30 – 4:00pm	Under 11's	Skill assessments & Game

## **2nd Sunday Session – 25 February 2018**

9am – 11am	Under 12's	Game + One "skill station"
11:30 – 1:30pm	Under 13's	Game + One "skill station"
1:30 – 2:30pm	Under 14's	Game + One "skill station"
2:30 – 3:30pm	Under 15's	Game + One "skill station"
3:30 – 4:30pm	Under 16's	Game + One "skill station"

These schedules are based on the following approximate team numbers for mixed teams:

U9	8-10 teams	U10	5-6 teams
U11	4-5 teams	U12	4 teams
U13	3-4 teams	U14	2 teams
U15	2 teams	U16	2 teams

**Note:** Women's grading will be assessed on a yearly basis depending on the amount of teams in each age group. Where there is more than 1 team in Women's age groups, Grading shall commence at WU10's and shall be considered "soft grading" as per Mixed U9's team formation guidelines. These age groups will be graded within the same time slots as per above.

Age Groups to be graded shall be assessed and players informed by the Ladies Coordinator each year due to the variance in numbers of women's football participants when compared to mixed football participants.

Attachments:

Samples that Grading coordinator may wish to utilise

- ☐ Skills assessment station diagrams
- ☐ Field/Station set-up diagrams
- ☐ Player grading score sheets

# Team formation

Team formation shall be discussed and finalised by a panel of 3 people consisting of:

- ☐ The Grading Coordinator
- ☐ The relevant Age Group Coordinator
- ☐ A member of the NFC Executive Committee

Team formation will be based on some or all of the following available information and resources:

- ☐ Grading results
- ☐ Previous years Coach Assessment/feedback
- ☐ Previous teams/divisions played in
- ☐ Friend requests

(See further age group relevant information below)

## Under 9

- ☐ Grading for Under 9's is known as "soft grading"
- ☐ 2 Higher skill level teams will be formed from grading results and other available resources
- ☐ All remaining teams will be formed utilising grading scores as well as information on teams played in previously and friend requests. These teams will be formed according to the team's ability, i.e. Middle skill level or lower skill level teams.
- ☐ This "Soft Grading" process is undertaken to comply with Manly Warringah Football Association's policy for grading this age group.

## Under 10 & 11

- Teams will be formed utilising grading results and previous years Coach feedback/assessment form information.
- Where possible and where it does not negatively impact the grading of any other player, friend requests may be considered. Teams played in previously will also be considered providing this does not negatively impact the grading of another player or does not place a player in a grade that is obviously too high or low for their skill level.
- An even number of Defensive, Mid-field and Attacking players must be considered when forming teams in this age bracket in order to form balanced teams as they progress towards competition age.

## Under 12 to 16

- Currently these age groups are listed as “Competitive” age groups with Manly Warringah Football Association.
- Teams will be formed utilising grading results and previous years coach assessment/feedback.
- Teams will be formed with an even number of players per division. If un-even numbers exist, lower division teams shall be formed with more players than higher division teams to allow for “borrowing up” as players cannot be borrowed from a higher division to play in a lower division.
- Friend requests may only be considered in team formation outside of the two higher graded teams and are not guaranteed under any circumstances.
- An even number of Defensive, Mid-field and Attacking players will be insisted upon when forming teams in this age bracket.

## Other factors affecting Team Formation

### Absentees from Grading Assessment Days:

- If a player is unable to be present at their allocated age group grading session (with good reason), and they have previously been graded in one of the two higher divisions for their age group, their previous years grading and previous years coach assessment will be discussed and decided upon by the team formation panel.

### Players wishing to grade in a higher age group:

- If any player wishes to grade in any age group higher than their actual age group, the players parents must be made aware that they are not guaranteed a position in their actual age group should they decide to drop back to their actual age group. They will be graded and assessed as per the age group they attend grading for. Players cannot grade in more than one age group.

### Players grading without being registered:

- Only registered players shall be eligible to attend and participate in grading sessions. Un-registered players who will not be permitted to grade shall be treated as an absentee as per above.
- Whereby a registered player cannot attend grading (for good reason), and/or the club or a team wishes to add players to make up team numbers etc. A special skills assessment session may be held at a training session outside of the scheduled grading days. The purpose of this is to assess and align the capability of the player with the skill level of the division in which they/the club or team wish the player to participate in. This assessment session must be attended by the Grading Coordinator and a minimum of one of the following: Team coach, Age group Coordinator or EC Member.

## **Compliance with Manly-Warringah Football Association**

- In order to maintain full compliance with Manly-Warringah Football Association's guidelines, the "Narrabeen Football Club Academy", its coaches or volunteers shall not be permitted to be involved in any aspect of player grading or team formation.  
(See extract below from MWFA "Roles of Academies Policy V.7)

### **Academy Teams**

"The MWFA recognises that individual football players may feel the need to use academies/development programs/train-on squads for obtaining extra skills training, but the running of a team and the composition of the team should be maintained by the club."

## **Protection of volunteers within Narrabeen Football Club**

- As a means of protection for NFC volunteers (particularly Grading Coordinator, Graders, Coaches, Age Group Coordinators etc), once teams have been formed and members have been advised of final teams, no further correspondence regarding team formation shall be entered in to. Members will be required to read and agree to this Grading & Team Formation policy and its guidelines in order to finalise their registration. Any breach of this agreement may result in disciplinary action including the possible cancellation of player registration.

This policy and its procedures has been formulated based on team numbers from 2017 and will be assessed, amended and put forward for adoption by the Narrabeen Football Club Committee each year.