



## ***GUFC Policy – Junior Teams Trials and Grading Selections***

### **Purpose**

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This document outlines the GUFC trials and selection policy and guidelines. It is intended for use by parents, trialist, GUFC members and officials.

Any queries should be directed to the Director Premier League or Director Community as appropriate. Contact details for club officials are available on the GUFC website. General enquiries may also be directed to the club via contact email addresses or social media messaging.

In framing the policy, GUFC is mindful of the need to meet responsibilities including:

- Complying with FFA/CF competition rules;
- Giving all players a fair and reasonable opportunity to be selected;
- Appropriate assessment criteria;
- Transparent selection process.

### **Scope**

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These guidelines apply to trialist up to and including Under 18 age groups.

These policies and guidelines do not apply to senior community leagues (state leagues and masters) or senior premier leagues as different team selection processes apply.

These guidelines shall constitute the policy for 'selection' and should be considered authoritative by all trialist, parents and officials. These policies may be amended or waived only with the approval of the GUFC Executive.

These guidelines do not override any Capital Football competition rules (including player eligibility rules).

### **Eligibility**

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As per Capital Football Age Eligibility Rules. If in doubt, trialist should refer to Capital Football age eligibility rules and regulations published on the CF website.

Female players are eligible for boys (open) teams.



All players shall trial or have an approved exemption in order to be considered for selection. An exemption will only be granted if the player has a legitimate reason for not attending trials (overseas, injury etc). Any players not able to attend GUFC trial dates should notify the Director Premier League or Director Community as appropriate, prior to the GUFC trials or grading dates with a written justification as to why the player should be considered and assessed for selection outside of the GUFC trial periods.

This rule does not prevent GUFC from adding any registered GUFC player into a Premier League or Community squad during the course of the competition year.

Generally, the goal is to retain a high percentage of GUFC players, given the Club's investment in those players development, and to reciprocate loyalty and a commitment to those players who have followed the Club's junior pathway.

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## **Assessment Criteria**

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Player Criteria – players will not only be assessed on their technical skills but also:

### **General**

1. Attitude – how a player reacts to his coach and his peers during the trial process.
2. Appearance – players are expected to attend trials in appropriate football attire. (E.g. training shirt, shorts, socks that cover shin pad, shin pads, football boots suitable for synthetic)
3. Player Discipline: Attention to discussions and instructions – Task completion – Respect for all assessors – linked with Attitude.

### **Technical Abilities:**

1. Attacking – Dribbling, Passing, Controlling, Receiving, Heading, Shooting, 1v1, Crossing, Plays with both feet.
2. Defending – Tackling, Delaying, Covering, Recovering, Intercepting, Anticipating, Blocking shots and crosses.
3. Goalkeepers will be assessed as per the above Assessments. GUFC will hold separate (additional) goalkeeper sessions to aid assessment decisions by the Team Head Coach and Premier League Goal Keeping Coach. These sessions will incorporate: Receiving, moving, distributing the ball; shot stopping.

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## **Conflicts of Interest**

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We advise all parents and guardians from the start of the trial process that Players will be selected according to the criteria above. Under no circumstances will parents and guardians have any involvement in the trial



and selection processes. If a Team Head Coach has a conflict of interest e.g child is a trialist, or other family relationship etc, the Team Head Coach must declare a conflict of interest and that player's assessment will be conducted solely by another GUFC Head Coach and/or an independent assessor.

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## Community League - Team Selection Process

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## Premier League - Team Selection Process

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**Primary Selectors.** Each age grade Team Head Coach and an independently appointed Technical Committee<sup>1</sup> person will jointly make final recommendations for team selection.

Other assessors/coaches may be used during the trials process.

All Premier League assessors will be chosen by the Club with regard to the following requirements:

1. need for independence of assessors; and
2. need for a certain level of expertise/qualifications.

Player assessments conducted during the trial process will be the primary tool used for selections. Where available, previous/external coaching assessments (written and verbal) may be consulted. Once trials are complete, all assessment data is retained by the Club without release to third parties.

As primary selectors, the Team Head Coach and Technical Committee member have joint responsibility for compiling final player assessments / rankings. These Rankings/Assessments are considered final.

**Goalkeepers.** The Club Goal Keeping Coach<sup>2</sup> will have responsibility for compiling final player GK assessment / rankings. The Team Head Coach will select the Team Goalkeeper/s only in consultation with the Club Goal Keeping Coach.

**Team size.** GUFC PL squads can have a **maximum of 20 players**. Generally teams will be 16 players. A number of factors go into determining squad size including the overall quality of the age cohort.

**Trials Outcome:** Unsuccessful trialist will be notified by email as soon as possible. GUFC may commence cutting unsuccessful trialist after the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) trial session.

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<sup>1</sup> Where TC member is unavailable, Director Premier League will appoint an independent suitable person

<sup>2</sup> Where a Club GK Coach is unavailable, Director Premier League will appoint a suitably qualified person



**Player Feedback:** Due to the number of trialist and short trial windows, no feedback will be provided for players. Trials may receive feedback if appropriate and suitable to do so (e.g. on the cusp of selection, cut after 3<sup>rd</sup> trial etc).

**Due Diligence/Re-Trials.** Director Premier League, on behalf of GUFC Executive, must be satisfied that this Team Selection policy and guidance within has been complied with. Director Premier League, in consultation with General Manager Sports, may call for reviews of any trial matter and if necessary conduct re-trials of cut players or re-assessment of selected players.

**Complaints.** Persons who would like to lodge an official complaint are to do so in accordance with relevant GUFC complaints and handling policies on the website.

## **Premier League - Offers and Conditions of Acceptance**

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Team Head Coaches will forward recommendations for Premier League offers to Director Premier League.

**Offers to Players.** Offers for a position in a Premier League team can only be made by Director Premier League or otherwise an authorized person appointed by General Manager Sports. Letters of Offer will be given, subject to:

1. Recommendation by Primary Selectors.
2. Recommendation by GUFC PL Registrar with respect to prior registration history and rules (e.g. fees, Competition rules).
3. Recommendation by Director Premier League with respect to any matters of club and player administration (Disciplinary, Code of Conduct (player and parent), Values etc).

**Conditions of Acceptance.** Players who accept an offer and pay the requisite deposit (amount to be determined annually by Executive Committee) must agree to the following conditions:

1. Players shall not trial at other Clubs after accepting an offer, otherwise an offer will be immediately withdrawn by GUFC.
2. Parents/Guardians/Players shall pre-commit and acknowledge their full availability for all weekly training sessions (minimum 2), friendly games and competition matches over the period **1 Feb – 30 Sept**. If applicable, GUFC will support player training/game commitments with representative teams, where it is not detrimental to Club/Team commitments.
3. All players must be fully financial or on Registration Payment Plans prior to the Premier League pre-season matches commencing.
4. Parents/Guardians/Players must sign the GUFC Code of Conduct and Values Statement.



5. **At all times** during pre-season and competition proper, **GUFC reserves the right to re-evaluate** a player's continual suitability (development, maturity, enjoyment etc) and commitment to PL level football. All evaluations and/or decisions to release a player are made in conjunction with Director PL, Team Head Coach, and the GUFC Technical Director (or appropriate Club Head Coach). What is "best for player" is central to any decision.

## **Policy Review**

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This Policy is to be reviewed annually.

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