



Grading & Team Selection Policy

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GUFC Philosophy

GUFC's aim is to provide the best environment for the participation and fullest development of its members in Football and we are strongly committed to the values that define what the club believes in. One of the most important offerings that a club can do is commit to its juniors development. At GUFC we are focused on developing from within our player community, with the aim to provide a pathway for all our junior gunners so they may grow and develop to play in our NPL and NPLW teams. Gunners players will receive preference in all grading processes across the age groups

Purpose of Grading

At Gungahlin United Football Club we believe that the grading of players is an important step to enhance all of our players' enjoyment and skill development. Research has found that children enjoy sport much more and develop skills quicker when they play and train with players of their own ability.

Continuous Improvement

We have evolved our grading policy over the years and continue to develop our grading process.

We want our process to be able to identify good football skill but be fair and without question. We have spent a lot time working on and improving our grading model and believe that we are heading in the in the right direction.

Each year we get lots of feedback on our grading process, both from coaches and parents that we take into consideration when reviewing our overall process.

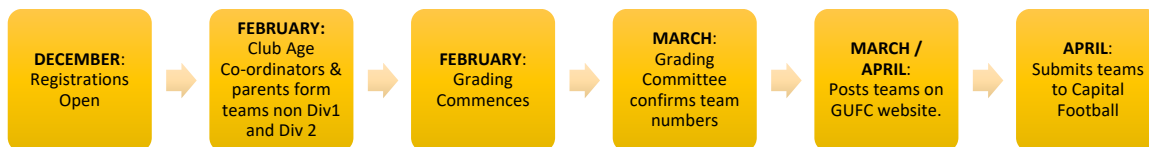
The team that conducts the grading process are selected for their football knowledge and come with experience as coaches or players or both.

Grading Process

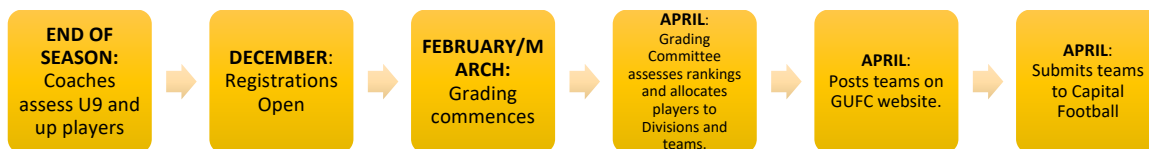
All players must be registered to participate in the grading process.

GUFC has two core grading processes as shown below.

U6s – U9s



U10s up



Age Group Rules

Age groups for football in Australia are based on the calendar year ie 1 January to 31 December.

Example: If a player turns 10 in the calendar year, then their default age group is U10.

For U9 – U12s, if a player’s birthday is before 30 April, then they can chose to play up without seeking approval from the club.

Example: If a player turn 10 on the 27th February in the calendar year, then they have the choice to play either U10 or U11.

Coaches’ Assessments

At the end of each season, we ask all of our coaches for U9s and up to complete a player summary.

This confidential assessment evaluates the individual skills and attitude of all players. This record is used to supplement the following season’s grading process. However, we recognise that individuals continue to improve/mature during the off season particularly in the younger age groups.

Coaches will grade each player in accordance with the following scale:

- **A** = Div 1
- **B+** = Potential Div 1, but needs more assessment
- **B** = Div 2
- **C** = Div 3

U6, U7, U8 & U9

Players from U6 – U9 do not need to be graded. The relevant GUFC Age Co-ordinator will work with parents to form teams. The club will decide on the number of players per team depending on the number of players registered.

U10-U11

From U10 and up, Capital Football requires Clubs grade all players into teams of equal ability and are therefore are put though our full grading process.

Players must attend at least one grading sessions.

Football Skills Assessed	Grading Activities
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striking the ball (passing) • First Touch (receiving) • 1v, and • running with the ball. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 v 1 • 2 v 2 • Conditioned Small Sided Games (4v4) • Larger game (8v8)
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U12-U15

By the time players reach the U12s we are more aware of our player's ability. We also start to give greater weight to their coaching report. However, player's skills are still developing very quickly and their ranking against their peers are constantly changing so we still need to be vigilant about giving all of our players the opportunity to prove themselves.

U16+

When the players reach this stage of their playing career we have a reasonable idea of our player's ability and their ranking vs their peers. However, we do have new players coming to the club and sometimes have to combine age groups (there is no U17s). Therefore, we require a look at these players.

Players not able to attend Grading days

Where a player is unable to attend the grading days, the Grading Committee will consider the team/division they played in last season and the confidential assessment made by that player's coach in the previous season. If that is not available the player will be most likely placed in the team in the lowest division and progression to a higher grade will be by recommendation from the relevant coach. It is easier for a player to move up a divisions after the season starts than down. Please note that this can only occur if player numbers in the team permits.

Playing with Friends

If a player wants to play in the same team as a friend, this must be advised at the time of registration. If both friends make this request, they will each be assessed and then be placed in a team of the lowest grading. For example, if one (1) player is graded in division 2 and the other in division 3 and they want to play together, they will both be placed in division 3.

It is important to make this request before grading as once teams have been announced, changes based on friendship are not likely.

Player and Team Notification

Players will only be placed in teams once they have registered with the club. Teams will be formed once numbers allow for a full team. After a team has been formed by the Grading Committee, the team list will be posted on our website.

Whilst GUFC will allocate each team a division relevant to their skill, Capital Football may subsequently change the division of the team when they review teams submitted from other Clubs.

Appeals

If a parent is dissatisfied with the grading of their child, and wish to appeal, they should email the Grading Committee (grading@gufc.org.au) who will meet to review the grading of the player. A reply will come from the Grading Committee.

Note: Only appeals in writing to the Grading Committee will be looked at.