



'The Next Generation'

Wagga Tigers Junior Football Netball Club

PLAYING in OLDER AGE DIVISION POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to highlight the benefits of players playing in older age divisions, not only to assist the club when player numbers may be short in a particular age division, but also to develop players that are physically capable of playing in the next age division. This will also ensure coaches allow these opportunities to be spread amongst multiple players.

All players are required to play in their own age group in the first instance. However, players are encouraged by the club to help out teams in older age divisions that may not have enough numbers. At the start of each season coaches will be asked to prepare a list of players who are both physically capable and willing (including parents' consent) to play in the next age division, if the need arises. These kids will be selected by their own coach in consultation with the coach/manager of the next age division to ensure the players selected each week are compatible with the needs of the team for that particular week. Players will be generally selected on a rotation basis so during the home and away season those listed players all have an opportunity to experience the next level. During final series it will be at the two relevant coach's discretion who is selected to play.

To give an incentive to players to play up and assist older age divisions they are to average at least one quarter of the playing time per week for home and away games. During finals series it will be at the coach's discretion but players can expect to receive at least the same amount of playing time as preference would be given to the players registered in that particular age division.

Also, during the home and away season players who are playing up a grade should not be asked to play for opposition teams. If the opposition numbers need boosting their extra players should either be from their own age group or younger players that willingly volunteer to play for the opposition. It is recognised that kids playing in an older division are less likely to help out if they are required to play for the opposition each week.

It should be noted that to qualify for finals in an older age division players will need to have played at least three (3) competitive games (where a team sheet is handed in to the AFL) in that age division or the one below.

Summary

- Kids enjoy playing in older age divisions. It helps develop their skills and confidence.
- It will also improve our player's and our team's adaptability and versatility.
- Equitable rotations of listed players and a minimum level of playing time is critical to keep an incentive for the players to volunteer each week to help out.
- Younger players will not be requested to play for opposition teams. If they do not willingly volunteer they will play for our club and players in the relevant age division will be selected by the coach to play for the opposition.
- These guidelines are minimum standards that must be upheld to ensure an adequate incentive is provided for younger players to play whilst recognising that players in that age division get preference and the majority of game time.
- If any parent has any concerns regarding their child on game day feel free to consult the relevant coach or team manager in the presence of the club President or Coaching Coordinator.

THIS MUST NOT BE DONE ON GAME DAY BUT AT A CONVENIENT TIME IN A PRIVATE & COURTEOUS MANNER.

You must approach the club President to arrange such a time.