



JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY

At the Port Fairy Seagulls we strive to be a successful and sustainable Club into the future. By having these guidelines in place we are ensuring our youngest members are treated fairly and equally.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all players under the age of 18 who are considered junior members of the Port Fairy Seagulls.

POLICY

The Club will provide opportunities for and encourage junior football and netball players to develop and become successful at senior level.

PROCEDURES

- All junior selections will be age appropriate as of December 31st of the current year for netball and as at 1st of January of that year for football.
- Player development is a priority of the Club and will be taken in consideration when team selection is being conducted.
- A player may be required or invited to play in a higher age group at the discretion of coaches and the committee and by agreement with the player, parent or guardian.
- At all times, player movement must be completed with consideration for the best outcome of the player concerned, with parental or guardian representation.
- By law 98.5, 140.2 needs to be taken into consideration.
- Movement through the grades may also be a result of the impact of injury, illness and availability. This may be temporary or permanent. If a younger player is required to play permanently in a grade above it is the committee's responsibility to write to the league to ensure that the player is still eligible for their age appropriate grade.

RESOURCES

- [ByLaw 98.5](#): After round 10, any 13 & U, 15 & U, or 17 & U aged Netball player who plays more than 8 quarters in a particular higher junior age group is not eligible for a lower age grade unless she applies to the league in writing. If the league grants permission she must then remain in the lower grade for the rest of the season including finals.
- [ByLaw 140.2](#): Any player registered with their club who plays Under 12 Football, Under 14 Football or Under 16 Football cannot take the field in eight (8) or more home and away matches in a higher grade to be eligible to play finals in Under 14 Football or Under 16 Football

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to Club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.