



Junior Football/Netball – Player rotation & selection Guidelines

PLAYER ROTATION & SELECTION

Anakie Football Netball Club endeavours each year to fill as many junior sides within our affiliated competitions as possible.

For all our junior Football & Netball players we aim to provide opportunity to be included in the age appropriate team. As a club we pride ourselves on our junior teams and believe the juniors are the future of our Club. Anakie FNC has gone to great lengths to support local & district kids to be involved in their club at grass roots level. This is a goal we continue to work towards each year.

Wherever possible, we aim for our players to have equal time through the **home & away** season on the oval or court. This approach is to support an inclusive approach for all children to participate in their local sport. As we are also trying to balance a competitive game, and ultimate goal to win games, Coaches and Team Managers will also need to reflect on the combination of players in any given game to ensure the strongest team is listed & played on match day.

We encourage juniors to not only develop their love of their chosen sport, but to also develop skills, fitness, team work and positive self worth. Anakie FN Club Junior coaches will be guided by the following:

1. Unless the opinion of the committee, exceptional circumstances exist, all coaches and team managers in the Junior Football and Netball teams must ensure that each player on the team list who has attended training on a regular basis will be given minimal playing time wherever possible.
2. Minimal playing time = 1.5 quarters or equivalent (Both footy & NB) through the home & away season wherever possible.
3. Wherever possible, Junior footy players will be rotated through the quarter to allow for time on the oval ie: players will not sit on bench for whole quarter.
4. Coaches and Team Managers will record their player rotations for each game to support any further discussions that may arise through the season. This information will be discussed at coaches' meetings during the season.
5. At season end, in the instance of a junior Football or Netball team making finals, discussions within the Coaching/Team Manager team may need to approach what team will be the strongest for finals games. In the instance that there are more children listed in a team, than can physically take the oval or court, difficult decisions may need to be made to list the strongest team, ultimately meaning that some children may miss out on a finals game.

PLAYER SELECTION

If team lists extend past the maximum numbers, some players will be required to be rostered off each week during the season. If possible, Coaches and Team Managers should give parents and players the opportunity to advise, in advance, any times of unavailability to ensure these games missed are counted as games rostered off. It is expected that all players will be rotated equitably.

Again, an accurate record of player selection is required, and dates when players were rostered off.

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of the teams shall be done based on a number of considerations, including the following: As a duty of care to the player;

- The skill ability of the player. This is not just a consideration of individual skills alone but what the team may need against specific opposition & attitude.
- What position(s) they play;
- Whether they may be better served playing in a different grade to; improve their skills; or enable them to play in a position that they would not play in at the higher team;

NB: Consideration will not be given to players or parents friendship groups. Consideration will also not be given to parental support roles. Appointed coaches should not establish their game day support team (trainers, runners, team managers etc.) to the detriment of this grading policy. Teams will be selected on individual players merits, skills & attitudes. Depending on opposition team, thought is also given to the team selection that players will match oppositional players skills.

Final decision of team(s) composition will be made through consultation with each of the year level coaches

PLAYER MOVEMENT

Where we have more than one team playing in a footy division/age group - Players shall move up and down in teams in different grades over one season in order to field the strongest team and to ensure that all players are experiencing success. This movement shall be done in consultation by primary coach and proposed team coach where the child is likely to move to.

Consideration will be given to:

- Performance of intended player to be moved.
- Need of the type of player in the higher team.
- Attendance and effort at training.
- Attitude.
- Communication as to why the movement is happening is of great importance.

There may also be player movement of a lower age netballer playing in a higher age team to support player rotations and required list.

FINALS SELECTION

It is generally recognised that finals football & Netball is different from the home and away games. The policy for finals games will be based on the following principles:

- An understanding that player selection and playing time for individual players gives the team the best possible opportunity to win.
- The Coach will have full discretion over the length of playing time that individual players will have on the field/court and the time each player spends on the bench.
- The Coach will endeavour to give the team the best possible chance to win finals games and players will be given feedback to support this.
- Ultimately, this may mean that some children may **NOT** be selected within a finals team, or if selected, may **NOT** get field/court time, however their role is important as sub player if required and to support their team in the spirit of good sportsmanship and the game.