



GREENWICH SPORTS CLUB

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Player Selection and Grading Policy

Adopted 27 January 2016

1. Player Allocation to Age Groups – applicable to all teams

Many teams and age groups have a limit on player numbers and sometimes there will be more players than places available. In these circumstances, preference will be given to players in the following order:

1. Players who registered within the Priority Registration Period (as shown on the Club calendar).
2. Players who are not eligible to play in a younger age group.
3. Players who played for Greenwich Sports Club (in any team or sport) in the prior year. ^{see note 1}

Note 1: Where a player was unable to play in the prior year due to circumstances beyond their control, the Committee may treat the player as if they had played in the prior year for the purposes of this policy. It is the responsibility of the player to inform the Committee of such circumstances at the time of registration via the Registrar.

4. Players who have played for Greenwich Sports Club for the greatest number of years.
5. Players in order of the earliest registration received

Note: the effect of the above is that players from the previous season or with seniority will have preference over new players, but only if they register within the Priority Registration Period and are not eligible to play in a younger age group.

2. Football Team Selection and Grading

The objective of the football team selection and grading policy is to ensure that players are placed in a team appropriate to their skill level so that they enjoy their football and develop as players, and enable our teams to be competitive at all grading levels against other clubs. Team selection and grading processes will be fair, and seen to be fair, for all players.

2.1 Junior Teams (Mixed and Girls)

Greenwich Sports Club regards the grading process as being an important part of the season's preparation. We have found that players who are not graded properly do not have as much fun playing as they otherwise could. Our emphasis in the junior age groups is very much on fun, but we also like to make sure the players are given every chance to improve their football skills and to try to make sure they come back to football year after year.

Under 6 and Under 7

Under 6 and Under 7 teams will not be graded, they will be social teams with the opportunity to nominate to play with friends (subject to player numbers).

Under 8 to Under 18

Teams in these age groups will be fully graded, subject to there being sufficient player numbers to form more than one team.

Playing up in older age groups

While players may register in age groups for which they are no more than two years younger than the age requirements for that age group (ie play up two years), Greenwich generally prefers that players play in their correct age group. However it depends on the individual player concerned and we do allow exceptions whereby the Club may ask a player to play up an age group to increase the number of players in that age group and allow the creation of another team or the balancing of numbers, or if their skill level indicates that they would be better placed in a higher age group.

General team allocation

The Club reserves the right to add and move players between teams and age groups to ensure that teams and team numbers are balanced and to minimise turning players away.

2.2 Adult Teams

Mens teams

These teams will be self-determined by the Coaches, Managers and Players in the lead up to the season.

Women's teams

Player numbers in women's age groups and teams are likely to be capped, as determined by the Committee. If this results in more players than positions available, players will be allocated a place based on the process described in section 1 above.

Once the women's player group is determined, teams will be graded by a Grading Panel. Any players wishing to be selected for any team other than the lowest grade must participate in the grading process. If returning players do not participate in the grading process, they will not be guaranteed a place in their previous team and selection will be based on prior year performance at the discretion of the grading panel.

2.3 Grading Process

Grading Panels will be formed by the Director of Coaching as required to conduct grading processes and determine team selections for different age groups.

Grading panels will conduct a process to assess players that may include skills grading sessions, trials, use of professional coaches to assist with assessment, prior season coach assessments where available, and discussion with previous coaches, as considered appropriate. The conduct of all grading and team selection is at the discretion of the Grading Panel and any reviews or disputes arising out of team grading and selection will be referred back to the Grading Panel for final determination.