



Policy Title:	<b>GRADING POLICY</b>		
Policy Number:	006	Effective Date:	20 Nov 2019
Purpose:	To place players in a division best suited to their ability. In doing so, all children have the opportunity to progress in the sport, playing the game at their level.		

## INTRODUCTION

Rosebud Heart Junior Soccer Club is a community club that aims to give all players a fair go, the opportunity to play to the best of their ability and to be good sports.

The aim of the Rosebud Heart Junior Soccer Club Grading Policy is to place players in a division best suited to their ability. In doing so, all children have the opportunity to progress in the sport, playing the game at their level. Playing a competitive team sport teaches children lessons which they can use throughout all aspects of their life including persistence, team play, friendship and fair play. Playing within their ability also provides the opportunity for players to extend their friendship circle and meet others within the local community brought together by their love of playing soccer.

## POLICY

It is a policy of Rosebud Heart Junior Soccer Club that Junior Teams 12's and above be graded into divisions according to their ability.

### Football Victoria (FV) Competitions

FV competitions for Sub-Juniors (U8 to U11) and Juniors (U12) consist of three different categories:

1. Kangaroos
2. Wallabies
3. Joeys

NB: Sub-Juniors **DO NOT** play for points and there is **NO** ladder – teams are placed in FV categories according to ability.

FV competitions from U12's and above are graded competitions with a ladder playing for points. In order to provide critical preparation for the upcoming season, grading will be conducted at the earliest possible time to provide coaches and players ample preparation before the season begins to secure the team.

The placement of teams into FV categories is at the discretion of the Director of Coaching\*\*.

**\*\* In lieu of a Director of Coaching, the Committee will make decisions along with an independent, suitably qualified coach not affiliated with the club.**

### Team Selection for Sub-Juniors 11 and under

There will be a preliminary session held for all sub-junior players (11 years of age and under) in which all players must attend their age-specified sessions. This provides equal opportunity for both new and existing players to be placed in a team.

Coaches in each age group will designate their team players; where intervention is required the Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee) will make the decision.

### Composition of Teams

Each team is composed of field players + 2 substitute players. Additional substitutes are at the coach's discretion.



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### **Grading Procedure for Age Group 12 and Above**

There will be preliminary grading sessions held for all players competing in the ladder competitions (12's and above) in which all players must attend.

The Coaches for each age group will run these preliminary grading sessions together, overseen by the Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee). This provides equal opportunity for both new and existing players to be placed in a team based on the player's abilities.

Teams will be chosen by the Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee) in consultation with the age group Coaches, according to competition division.

Finalised team selection will immediately be submitted to the Committee to be published.

NB: FV assesses all ladder competitions and may re-evaluate and regrade teams as they deem required.

### ***Composition of Teams***

#### ***Under 12***

Each team is composed of field players + 2 substitute players. Additional substitutes are at the coach's discretion.

#### ***Under 13 & above***

Each team is composed of field players + 3 substitute players. Additional substitutes are at the coach's discretion.

### **Sub-Junior & Junior Players Playing Up**

Any player wishing to play in an older age group will be provided the opportunity to do so provided the player displays the necessary skill level, maturity and ability to play in that age group.

The player will attend the grading sessions for that older age group. If the player is unsuccessful in displaying the necessary skill level, maturity and ability to play in the older age group they will return to their own age group.

### **Sub-Junior & Junior Players Playing Down**

It is a requirement by the FV that all players must play in their own age group or above. Please refer to the FV policy for dispensation rules<sup>1</sup>.



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## IMPLEMENTATION OF GRADING

Prior to preliminary grading sessions, a meeting with the Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee) and all Coaches and Team Managers will be arranged to discuss the Grading Policy and its implementation as below:

- A maximum of 2 sessions (or additional if required) will be arranged for each age group;
- The Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee) will give the Coaches a list of skills they want to observe during the grading sessions;
- Coaches of each age group will run the grading sessions incorporating the skills given by the Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee);
- The Director of Coaching (or independent Coach/Committee) will compile a list of players for each team in each age group. The lists will be discussed with Coaches and a final team list for each team in each age group will be produced and;
- Finalised team selection will immediately be submitted to the Committee to be published.