

KPFC Grading FAQ/Guidelines

Who is responsible for grading players?

- For all senior teams (AA, 0/35 & 045) – the VP of that group is responsible for coordination of the grading and operational activities throughout the season.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS DOCUMENT DEALS ONLY WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT JUNIOR GRADING ACTIVITIES FOR: **Junior Non Comp (Under 6 – 11) & Junior Comp (Under 12 – 18) age groups**

- For junior players (U18 and younger) – the Grading Manager will appoint a grading committee who will be responsible for the grading of the players. The grading committee will consist of a **selection** of experienced senior players, past coaches, and club committee members to ensure the grading process is carried out without bias.

What age groups will be graded?

- All junior players (Under 6 – Under 18 inclusive) will be graded into a team appropriate for their age and skill level. Less emphasis will be placed on individual grading of U6 & U7 players – there is more emphasis on team work where enjoyment and the introduction to the Small Sided Game (SSG) are a priority, however all players will be graded to some extent.
- After finalisation of grading by KPFC, the respective VP's are responsible for submission of Team Divisional Allocations to Ku-Ring-Gai District Soccer Association (KDSA) for their concurrence and approval.

Why grade the players?

- Experience has shown that children develop their skills far quicker when they are playing at a level commensurate with their abilities.
- Placement of players in the most appropriate team at an early age allows the club to identify and nurture the requirements of the individual players as they move into the older age groups.

Can my child be placed into a team with his/her friends?

- Experience has shown the majority of children will quickly make new friends when put into a team of the appropriate skill level.
- If a SSG/Junior Non Comp : (Under 6 – Under 11) parent requests their child be placed in a team with a friend, the club will do it's best to accommodate these wishes under the following conditions:
 - Parents can nominate up to 3 (three) friends for their child to be placed with. The club will then try to place that player with at least one of these friends – providing the friend has also nominated your child as a team mate (so the club knows the request is a mutual request).
 - All children graded with a nominated friend will be graded down to the level of the lowest skilled player of the nominated friend (e.g. if your child is graded in the 'A' team and his/her friend **is** in the 'C' team – if the request is granted, both children will play in the 'C' team).

How does grading work?

- The coaches' feedback from previous year's teams will be used to build a provisional ranking list of players within each age group prior to grading day. Grading day will then be used to confirm this ranking and to compare new players to the club with established players – and from this basis the provisional team lists are compiled. For some age groups these provisional team lists will be final – while for other age groups, trial matches will be used to finalise the teams.

What do we do about late registrations or absentees from grading day?

- Players registering late and/or missing grading day will be placed into teams deemed the most appropriate by the selection committee. Where possible, previous coach feedback and committee knowledge will be used as the basis for this decision – but with new players to the club – a decision on grading will be made on a case by case basis.
- **Attendance at grading is essential. Any player, who (for whatever reason) feels he/she cannot attend grading MUST formally advise the Grading Manager & Committee and respective VP prior to the scheduled grading day.**

Can my child play up an age group?

- Unless otherwise approved by KPFC, players will initially be placed in their correct 'Year of Birth' age group at registration. The age he/she turns this year is the age group he/she will be placed in. E.g. under 7 players turn 7 by 31 December this year.
- All players will be expected to compete in their correct age category/division. Requests for playing up in an older age group/division will only be considered by the grading committee in **exceptional circumstances**. The committee's decision will be based upon the following conditions:
 - The player's skill level is to be in line with the upper age group
 - The lower age group player numbers are not affected
 - Request for playing up must be made at registration or prior to grading day
- In conclusion, there are numerous logistics involved in forming teams that sometimes pose constraints on the teams themselves; so the decision to allow a player to play up an age group MUST remain at the discretion of the grading committee of the club.

When will the teams be announced?

- Teams will be announced on the first or second Friday of March at the clubhouse – see www.kpfc.asn.au for further details.

Can I appeal my child's grading?

- Yes, appeals must be made in accordance with the clubs communications policy in writing to the VP of that age group. This appeal will be considered by the VP (after consultation with the grading committee and at least one other club committee member). If any parent/players remain/remains unsatisfied with that appeal – any further action must be lodged via the club's grievance procedures.