

## MAJURA FOOTBALL CLUB GRADING POLICY 2015



The Majura Football Club grading policy is designed to give all players and parents an understanding of the club's grading and trialling process. Grading of players at Majura caters for all children who may come from different backgrounds and have different skill levels. They play football for varying reasons and have different football goals. The main purpose of grading is to place players in a team which is best suited to their ability. Majura FC will endeavour to give each player the opportunity to develop their skills and gain maximum enjoyment from the game of football.

### WHO IS GRADED AT MAJURA?

Grading by Majura FC is for players in the Under 10 – 18 age groups competing in the Capital Football Junior League. Our affiliated Premier League club, Canberra Olympic FC grades players in the Under 12 - 18 age groups for teams competing in the Premier League. No grading takes place in Pee Wees (U5) to Under 9. Grading is not compulsory and only players who wish to be graded into the stronger divisions need participate. Only registered players can trial and be graded at Majura.

### HOW PLAYERS ARE GRADED AT MAJURA FC

All grading at Majura FC is completed under the direction of the Vice President Football (or the Executive Committee if this position is vacant). Four assessments can be considered when grading takes place. The first is from Majura selectors who assess players participating in trials at the beginning of each season. The second is from coaches from the previous season. The third is from the Capital Football Skill Acquisition Program. Players who have made a Capital Football SAP squad will automatically be considered for a Majura Division 1 team in their corresponding age and gender group. The fourth is from Canberra Olympic selectors for players who have trialled for Premier League teams but are not yet ready for Premier League. If a player has not undergone any assessment and provides good reason, such as being newly arrived at the club, this player will need to be assessed by the VP Football and an age group selector.

After registration opens and before the season begins (usually in late February/early March), Majura FC conducts trials for players who wish to be graded into the stronger divisions, either the red or white teams for U/10 and U/11 and the Division 1 or 2 teams for U/12 to U/14. Trials for U/15, U/16 and U/18 teams are generally not conducted at Majura as players are assessed at preseason training and the team is graded rather than the individuals. Players not wanting to trial are automatically placed into the blue team or the Division 3 teams in their age group. It is possible for a whole team to be graded if players want to play together socially however this grading will be either division 2 or 3.

Trials are an important part of the grading process at Majura. Trials enable selectors to see and compare the range of technical skills and game skills across the entire age group and they allow newcomers to the club to be assessed. Players wanting to be Goal Keepers should trial with their age group and also be assessed by a goal keeping selector.

Trial dates, times and selectors are organised by the VP Football for each age group with the help of the Age Group Coordinator. There will be at least two selectors for each age group and no selector will have a child playing in that age group. Generally there are two trials for each age group and players are expected to attend all trials. Majura has an

information sheet for trials which we recommend players and parents read. It is available on our website <http://www.majurafc.org.au/documents/trialsfixturesandgames/Majura%20FC%20-%20Trials%202013.pdf>

At the trial each selector shall independently evaluate the players who are trialling and at the end of the trial period the selectors will convene to determine a ranking of players and to make recommendations about what division the team/s should be entered in. Capital Football provides a framework for team grading so it is possible that in any age group Majura FC could have 1, 2 or no teams in each division. The recommendations are then passed onto the VP Football who may take into consideration a previous coach's assessments before finalising the team lists. In some cases coaches for the forthcoming season will also be consulted about final team make up.

The coach's assessment is not only a skill assessment but also an assessment of reliability, attitude and work ethic. Majura FC recognises that these aspects of a player are an important consideration particularly where players are ranked equally on skill by selectors. If a player is considered exceptional by their coach then they will be referred to the VP Football and age group selectors for further assessment and consideration of their development needs. The results of all assessments are confidential.

## GRADING PLAYERS IN PREMIER LEAGUE AND PREMIER LEAGUE PATHWAY TEAMS

Canberra Olympic FC is affiliated with Majura FC and is responsible for all Premier League teams. In 2015 the Premier League teams are Men's Premier Open, U/20, U/18, U/16, U/14 and U/12 and Women's Premier Open, U/19 and U/17. Majura players wishing to play Premier League must attend trials carried out by Canberra Olympic. These trials are usually conducted in November and December. Canberra Olympic FC and Majura FC are developing a Pathway Program for identified players with Premier League potential. This cooperative program aims to provide a pathway for talented young footballers with training and competition opportunities comparable with the best development programs in Canberra and based upon Football Federation Australia's National Curriculum. This will help players move easily between the Majura division one team and the Olympic Premier League teams.

## TRIALLING IN A HIGHER AGE GROUP

Majura FC recommends that all players trial and play in their own age group. However in line with Capital Football's Junior League Rules players may trial in an age group up to two (2) chronological years above his/her actual age group. Girls playing in open or mixed gender teams may trial for a team in an age group that is one chronological year below their actual age group.

If a player decides to trial in a higher age group they should let the Age Group Coordinator know when they attend trials that they are trialling up. If a player trials in a higher age group they should not assume they will be graded in the higher age group and should also attend the grading for their own age group.

## GRADING DISPUTES

If a player or parent is unhappy about a players grading then they must complete a grading dispute form available from the club or on the club's website and send it to the VP Football for resolution. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the club will support the selectors' assessments.