# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS PLAYING IN UNDER 10 COMPETITIONS



Before the start of the 2022 season, we want to give parents of U10 players some information about trials and U10 competitions. For those with older siblings the information isn't new but for others, Majura FC wants to ensure you all know the changes that occur once you reach U10s.

For Majura players in U5 to Under 9, all games are held at Dickson Playing Fields. The competitions are intra-club and organised by Majura FC. Although we have teams from other clubs sometimes joining in, most teams are Majura teams. In Under 10 the competition becomes inter-club run by the ACT peak organisation, Capital Football. Teams play other clubs in the Canberra region and are required to travel to other club grounds.

#### Do we play home and away games?

Yes. From U10 onwards all competitions play home and away games. Sometimes the competitions are split roughly north/south so that you generally don't have to travel too far. However, if there are a lot of teams in a competition then there is no round robin format, and each team may just play each other once. Generally, at least half of your team's games will be played at Dickson.

# Does the game change in U10 competitions?

Yes, there are several changes to the game format in U10 that are designed to assist the progression to full sided games (which happens from U12 onwards). They include:

- ✓ The playing format is 9v9 so approximately 12 players will be placed in each team.
- $\checkmark$  The field is half a full field approximately 45 x 65m.
- $\checkmark$  The ball is slightly larger, size 4.
- $\checkmark$  The goal is bigger, 5 x 2m.

The competition is still played under the Miniroos small-sided games format. It is a noncompetitive competition which means there are no scores recorded, so no ladder and no finals.

#### What time are the games?

The U10 games are scheduled for 11.30am on Saturdays. The halves are 25 minutes each, with a 5-minute half time break. Games are finished by 12.30pm.

## Are players graded in under 10?

Players are graded in U10s but only if they want to be. The focus of this age group is still on fun, participation, and skill acquisition however, some players are ready to step up their level of football with more training and harder games. The U10 competitions are graded into divisions. The divisions are colour coded in line with the non-competitive format.

Each club nominates teams to divisions based on their trial results. The division 1 equivalent teams are for players that have the highest skill levels and are talented players. The division 2 equivalent teams are for players who have good skill levels and are developing as players. The

division 3 equivalent teams are for players who are keen to participate, play with friends and learn more about playing football.

All Majura players can decide whether they want to be graded in a trial process or whether they just want to play with friends. If you have a team of friends that want to play together, then Majura will place the team into one of the lower divisions based on the team's performance in the U9 competition. If you want to be in the division 1 equivalent team, then you will need to trial.

### What happens if your child decides to trial?

You will receive a newsletter with registration and trial information in late January. If you don't receive our newsletter, then it is important to check the Majura website for information. In February each year players attend trials held at Dickson which are run by the club. At the trials players will participate in some skill-based activities and small-sided games while being observed by selectors. You will need to register and pay registration fees before you can trial. More information about grading and the trialling process can be found on the Majura website

If you elect to trial, then it is very important that you and your child understand they may not be in a team with friends. Your child will be placed in a team with players graded of a similar skill and ability. <u>You cannot elect after grading to change teams</u>. If being with friends is more important to your child, then you should not trial. You need to nominate friends when registering so that Majura can ensure they are placed in a team with friends. You will need to check that any friends you nominate are not trialling because if they are then you may not be able to be placed in a team with them.

If your child is placed in a division 1 equivalent team, then they will be expected to train twice per week. This is another factor you should consider when deciding whether to trial or not. We understand that families have full schedules, but it is also important for talented players to train more than once a week to ensure their development as a football player.

# 2022 Trial Timetable for U10 Players

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Saturday 12th of February		
Goalkeeper Trials	Times TBC	Dickson Playing Fields
Wednesday 16th of February		
U10 Open & U10 Girls	5:30 pm - 6:45 pm	Dickson Playing Fields
Saturday 19th of February		
U10 Open & U10 Girls	9:00 am - 10:15 am	Dickson Playing Fields

Players who want to trial should attend both trials. Note there is also a goalkeeper trial for U10 players. Potential goalkeepers should also attend the goalkeeper trial.

#### I have more questions?

We hope this has answered most of your questions but if not please email any further questions to <u>info@majurafc.org.au</u>