

Warrandyte Junior Football Club

"It's all about the Kids"

Age Group Policy

The WJFC currently fields teams from Under 9 to Under 17. The date of eligibility is the 1st of January each year (e.g. a player that is sixteen as at the 1st January but turning seventeen during the year is eligible to play Under 17's). It is club policy that players must be at least seven years of age as at the 1st January of the current season to be eligible to be registered with the club. League rules also determine that females may only participate up to and including Under 14 years of age as at 1 January in the year of play.

A yearly registration fee is charged as well as weekly match fees.

The Committee is open to discussions with any parent who may have difficulty in making registration fees and match payments. The Club is about ensuring players play football - not about how much money is made.

It is the clubs policy and preference that players play within their age group. This is for the benefit and safety of the player. However, the club also recognizes the importance to some kids of playing with their mates. Therefore, where a player has a significant friendship group in a higher age group, the club will consider allowing the player to play in that higher age group if it is deemed appropriate and provided it is safe to do so. This will be decided on a case by case basis by the executive committee upon an application by the player's parents.

The only other exception to the policy of playing within the correct age group would be in a situation where there is an excess of players in one age group and a shortage of players in the next age group. In this situation a player or his parents may request that they be played in the higher age group. The decision on whether this be allowed to happen will be made by the 'Management Committee' and will be assessed on a case by case basis. Factors that will be taken into account in making this decision will be the players age, ability, size and maturity with the safety of the player being the overwhelming consideration.

No child will be asked to play up an age group against the wishes of themselves or their parents.

Wherever possible, this decision will be made prior to round one of the season.

If a player is permitted to play up an age group it will apply for the current season only.

The 'Management Committee' reserves the right to review this decision at any time during the season.

At no stage will a player playing in his correct age group be allowed to be disadvantaged by a player playing in a higher age group.