

TEAM SELECTION AND TRAINING POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear framework for Team Selection and Training.

SCOPE

The Team Selection and Training Policy intends to contribute toward a safe, supportive and encouraging environment that aligns with the Club's Values of Teamwork, Respect and Participation.

Additionally, the Cardinals are committed to complying with the spirit and intent of WA Football's Junior Competition Policies, Rules and Regulations (as amended from time to time), and this policy should be read in conjunction with these policies, rules and regulations.

Specifically:

TEAM NOMINATIONS: *WA Football is committed to forming fair, even and competitive competitions that enable young players of all abilities to have fun, actively participate and improve their knowledge and skills of the game.*

and

MULTIPLE TEAMS IN A YEAR GROUP: *WA Football suggests that clubs should endeavour to make their teams as even as possible, splitting players based on their skills, size, speed and overall ability. If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any year group or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply:*

- *Each team nominated by the respective club must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within its nominated division.*
- *If there are two teams in one division, it must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within that division.*

This policy applies to all Mods and Youth (girls, mixed and boys) teams.

TEAM SELECTION

In order to ensure that the Cardinals can comply with WA Football's Junior Competition Policies, Rules and Regulations, requests relating to team allocation will only be considered if all other principles of team selection are met, including but not limited to, both the guidelines below and WA Football's expectations.

MODIFIED RULES TEAM SELECTION

Years 3 – 4

- All teams to be of equal ability.
- Keep friends and school mates together where possible.
- If a year group has groups from a school with 5 or less players, these players should be kept together.
- Consideration should be given to "mixing up" the teams when moving from Year 3 to 4.

Years 5 – 6

- All teams to be of equal ability
- If a year group has groups from a school with 5 or less players, consideration should be given to these players being kept together.
- Teams must be "mixed up" each year.

YOUTH TEAM SELECTION

Years 7 - 10

- Where two teams in the same year are in the same division they are to be of equal ability
- Teams to be selected to be suitable for chosen divisions.
 - This is not just all the best players are selected for the top division, all teams need to be competitive.
- Teams must be mixed each year.

Years 11 – 12

- Year 11/12 Team Selection is to be undertaken in accordance with the Combined Youth Teams Agreement between the Mount Hawthorn Cardinals JFC and Coolbinia Bombers JFC.

TRAINING

Attendance at training is an essential element of club membership, and is critical to player safety, development and the establishment of a team and club culture.

Other than in extenuating circumstance the club and coach expectations are that players are available to attend all training sessions scheduled with their team.

For the avoidance of doubt please see table below setting out the Club's minimum expectation:

Team Training Sessions per Week	Minimum Attendance Expectation
1	1
2	1

In instances where a player is unlikely or unable to meet the minimum training attendance requirement this should be discussed with the coaching staff (where known) and subsequently issued to the Club Executive for consideration, if coaches are yet to be appointed, these requests will be considered by the Club Executive.

Any deviation from this Policy must be approved by the Club Executive with regards for the individual circumstances of the player and/or team.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

The training schedule will typically be released in March each year, ahead of grounds being made available in April.

Training will be at either 4:30pm – 6:00pm or 6:00pm – 7:30pm.

Modified Teams (including the equivalent Girls teams) will train at 4:30pm:

- Wednesday: Years 3 and 4; and
- Tuesday: Years 5 and 6

Youth team training will be determined in consultation with coaching staff in order to accommodate multiple weekly training sessions and increasing school (academic and sporting commitments).