



U13+ Grading Policy

CAMBERWELL SHARKS STREAMING POLICY

Introduction

It is the Club's policy to stream (grade) players at the U13 and above according to playing ability, where we have sufficient numbers for more than 1 team at that level. This is done to give players the opportunity to play and enjoy the game at a level where they actively compete, as well as continue to develop their skills. Player safety is a consideration and streaming also allows the teams to be balanced with equal numbers, with existing or new players. Entire friendship groups in one team may not be retained, but each player will still end up playing alongside many of their team mates from this season.

This policy will be provided to the U12 players prior to the end of the season, so they and their families understand how the streaming will work in the next season.

HOW STREAMING WORKS – CLUB POLICY

Team Grading within YJFL

The club will recognise the fact that streaming means that some teams within the grade are going to be strengthened with players coming up from lower grades, whilst others will be weakened with players being taken up. This situation will be assessed by the Club based upon the teams grading at U12 level, and the strength of the playing group. The Club will then apply for changes to the grading of the teams to compensate for these newly streamed teams. Whilst grading is ultimately determined by the YJFL, the club will manage this situation as best we can to ensure all teams are playing in the appropriate grade.

Player Grading and Selection

The philosophy is that we have one squad of players to select 2 teams, essentially an A and a B team. Team selection will be at the discretion of the coaches based on training, the practice match and form shown in early season games. Whilst both sides are likely to be quite settled after about round 4, the system will give players the opportunity to move between the 2 teams depending upon their form, availability and injuries. This system will work in a very similar manner to a senior football club with seniors and reserves, or school football teams with A and B teams.

Selection will be done by the coaching staff for each week and communicated to the entire group. The process will be:

- The number of players available will be determined prior to selection, and this is divided by the number of teams to work out how many each team will have for that week.
- The coach of the A side will select up to this number of players.
- The coach of the B side will then have the remaining players. If we are fielding more than 2 teams then the B side would be selected with the C side receiving the remaining players.
- The Coach of any team where a player is going down to a lower team MUST phone that player to advise them before the teams are emailed out.

Team Training

All players in the age group will train on the same night at the same time. This will promote the culture of “one club, two teams” (or three if there are more than two sides in the age group) and allow the players to still enjoy the interaction within the football environment with players they have played with in prior years.

At times during the season, the coaches may choose to split up into “squads” to allow drills to be done in smaller groups or at different skill levels.

Player Numbers

Importantly all teams have equal status and therefore equal numbers per team each week. If there is a shortage one week, then the A team does not have priority in terms of player numbers over the B team (or C team if 3 teams).

Coaching

Each team will have a coach, who controls the team on match days. At training, the coach of the A side will take on the role of “Head Coach”, however it is expected that drills will be taken by all coaches to reinforce their position within the coaching panel, and instruction provided by all coaches.

A difficult aspect of streaming is the fact that getting coaches lined up can be difficult until the team selection is done (i.e. not knowing where your own boy is playing will impact your ability to nominate as a coach). Suggested actions are:

- Get as many people involved as possible who are prepared to be involved as coaches and assistants, understanding that actual allocation to teams will not be done until practice match day/round 1.
- Get together as early as possible after registration day and review the player list. Utilising knowledge from coaches from previous year, considering grading, and using previous year’s best and fairest results will usually allow a nominal early split to be done to consider where coaches may be “likely” to be allocate.
- Understand that if a player whose father is the coach is a borderline player, then line up someone else to be involved for when that player may get rotated to another side.

Other Issues

- Pie nights etc will always be held as an entire group.
- End of season presentation night will be as an entire group.
- Correspondence relating to individual teams (i.e. fixtures/rosters etc) will be done by the individual team managers for that team, however any correspondence relevant to all teams, will be sent by the team manager of the A team.

Resolution of Any Conflict Issues

Manager Football and/or Committee will monitor implementation of streaming process and be consulted to decide any points of conflict or address queries of players, parents or coaches.