



## **2012 - Player Age Policy**

As per advice from Football Queensland Memo 10-11, the FQ Board has resolved:

***To rescind the Player age policy as of 1/1/2012 and requires Competition Administrators (CA's) to include player eligibility in Competition Rules.***

Football Queensland has advised Competition rules must include the following provisions:

- Players must be turning 5 by the end of the calendar in which they wish to register. This replaces the previous requirement for players to have attained 5 years before registration.
- Players must play in their designated age group as determined by date of birth unless exceptional circumstances apply. Exceptional circumstances are defined as identified players who participate at State or National level competitions.
- Each CA are required to provide a top tier Division 1 competition in every designated junior competitive age group U12 – U15 (There are to be no combined age groups for the Division 1 competition). Variation will be considered by FQ on application.
- Where combined age groups are required for lower divisions, applications will be considered by FQ.

### **SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL PROPOSED AGE REQUIREMENTS / RESTRICTIONS – JUNIORS 2012 TO MEET THE ABOVE FQ DIRECTIVE**

Subsequent to the advice from FQ, the following requirements / restrictions will replace any previous Age Policy or Competition Rules.

Clubs should make every effort to place junior players in their age appropriate teams. Under no circumstances should clubs promote "playing up" as an appropriate development strategy to young players or their parents/guardians. In all cases parental/guardian approval must be obtained before a player is considered to be allowed to "play up". Clubs should familiarise themselves with the age restrictions/requirements before the season commences and ensure that all coaches are aware of them when selecting teams.

## **PLAYER AGE POLICY – JUNIOR BOYS**

### **All Division One competitions**

Players must play in their designated age group as determined by date of birth. No composite teams will be accepted into Division One competitions.

#### *For 2012*

Under 12 – 2000

Under 13 – 1999

Under 14 – 1998

Under 15 – 1997

Under 17 – 1995 or 1996

Players will not be permitted to play up into these competitions unless they qualify for and have been granted “exceptional circumstances” status or as approved by the State Technical Director.

### **All Division Two and below competitions**

Players are permitted to play one year up into these competitions, subject to the “composite team rules” with parental / guardian permission (FQ form PA01).

#### *Composite Team Definition*

Where clubs have to combine age groups in lower divisions restrictions apply. The majority of players should come from the older age level. Where this is not the case application should be made to Sunshine Coast Football for permission to enter the team.

For clarification all Players are to remain in their designated age group unless nominated into a composite team at the commencement of the season. Once nominated into a composite team they are restricted to that age division and team. Application for composite teams apply as above.

i.e. an Under 13 player nominated into an Under 14(2) composite will remain in this team and not be permitted to move back into a lower age division . An Under 13(2) player nominated into an Under 13(2) team will not be permitted to take the field for an Under 14(2) composite team.

## **PLAYER AGE POLICY – JUNIOR GIRLS**

### **All Division One competitions**

Players must play in their designated age group as determined by date of birth.

#### *For 2012*

Under 13 (Div 1) – 1999 / 2000

Under 13 (Div 2) – 1999 / 2000

Under 15 (Div 1) – 1997 / 1998

Under 15 (Div 2) – 1997 / 1998

Under 17 (Div 1) – 1995 / 1996

Under 17 (Div 2) – 1995 / 1996

Players will not be permitted to play up into these competitions unless they qualify for and have been granted “exceptional circumstances” status or as approved by the State Technical Director.

### **All Division Two and below competitions – Under 13, Under 15 & Under 17**

Players are permitted to play one year up into these competitions with parental / guardian permission.

In all cases of playing up parental / guardian approval must also be obtained before a player is considered to be allowed to “play up”. Football Queensland form PA01 must be completed and forwarded to the SCF Office for approval.

#### *Composite Team Definition*

Where clubs have to combine age groups in lower divisions restrictions apply. The majority of players should come from the older age level. Where this is not the case application should be made to Sunshine Coast Football for permission to enter the team.

For clarification all Players are to remain in their designated age group unless nominated into a composite team at the commencement of the season. Once nominated into a composite team they are restricted to that age division and team. Application for composite teams apply as above.

i.e. an Under 13 player nominated into an Under 15(2) composite will remain in this team and not be permitted to move back into a lower age division . An Under 13(2) player nominated into an Under 13(2) team will not be permitted to take the field for an Under 15(2) composite team. (This applies to players who satisfy the one year playing up ruling only)

### **SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL**

Playing up in Small Sided Football is not permitted. Players will remain in age groups as below:

Under 6 – 2006 & 2007

Under 7 – 2005

Under 8 – 2004

Under 9 – 2003

Under 10 – 2002

Under 11 - 2001

### **JUNIOR PLAYERS PLAYING UP INTO SENIOR COMPETITIONS**

In all cases of playing up parental / guardian approval must be obtained before a player is considered to be allowed to “play up”. Football Queensland form PA01 must be completed and forwarded to the SCF Office.

For purposes of the player age policy all players are classified as “juniors” until they attain the age of eighteen years.

**MALE**

Players who are Under 17 and older – (YOB 1995) may play freely into any Senior competition. No players younger than this age group may take the field in senior competitions.

**FEMALE**

Players who are Under 16 and older – (YOB 1996) may play in any Sunshine Coast Football Senior competition. No players younger than this age group may take the field in senior competitions.

Players who are Under 17 (YOB 1995) may take the field for the SCF Brisbane Premier Sapphire and Diamond league teams (subject to FBI competition rules). No other players younger than this age group is eligible to take part in these competitions except members of the Under 16 JPL squad who may be used on a non-permanent basis (YOB 1996 only) in these teams.