

JAMESTOWN PETERBOROUGH FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

2024 JUNIOR FOOTBALL POLICY

SENIOR COLTS, JUNIOR COLTS, & MINI GRADES.

Our commitment

We believe that junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and maximise individual participation. Our club acknowledges that positive experiences in competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of sport.

Minis & Sub Minis:

Goals of non-competitive programs

- Begin to develop skills specific to football whilst being a fun and inclusive program.
- Introduction to what it means to be a part of team.
- Provide a range of opportunities for player development and understanding of the game.

Team selection

- As a guide, Minis and Sub Minis will be in school years 2-6.
- Players must be turning 7 in the year of starting sub minis to be eligible to register.
- Boys are eligible play minis if they are 11 on the 1st of January in that current football year (Born in 2013 for the current 2024 season)
- Girls get a one-year exemption to play minis football and must be 12 and under on the 1st January in the current football season.
- Some exceptions are based on individual cases, gender, and year level numbers.

Training

Training is fun, inclusive and challenges all players at their individual levels of development. All players are expected to attend trainings and if they can't please contact the coach.

Games

Saturday games give everyone the exposure, experience, and enjoyment of game situations. All players where possible will get equal playing time throughout the season.

What we will do:

- Emphasize to coaches and parents that sport is about participation, not competition.
- Modify rules and equipment, when possible, to include children and young people of all abilities and encourage their participation (if our sport offers modifications).
- Provide junior & mini players with a broad range of experiences (e.g., participating in different positions).
- Will try to match mini aged players with their size and ability not necessary their age. (Players will be given the opportunity to play up and down in the different age brackets for the minis and sub minis)
- The Club will foster an inclusive environment, encouraging boys and girls to participate.

Junior Colts:

- As deemed by NAFA a junior colt player is decided as being 13 and under on the 1st of January to age 11 on the first of January in that current season.
- For the 2024 season, Junior Colts are born between January the 1st 2010 and Dec 31st, 2012. (3 age groups).
- A player who is turning 12 in that calendar year is deemed as a Junior Colt but is permitted to play minis.
- All players in the 3 age groups are selected for a match before any younger aged players who may be required to fulfill a team.
- If more players are required to form a team, willing players in the next year level younger will be rotated to fill any vacancies.
- Girls get a 1-year extended eligibility to play Junior colts U14 football and must be 14 and under on the 1st of January in the current football season.
- Teams are selected by the coach and team manager.
- The Football Committee Junior Representative may be utilised as a resource if required by the selectors and coach.
- Any individual cases which require exceptions to the Junior & Mini age criteria require a permit from N.A.F.A.

Training

- Training will be inclusive and challenge all players at their individual level of development.
- Non-attendance at training will impact on field time if not advised.
- Coaches will acknowledge the difference between bereavement and chosen absences in comparison to not notifying the coach if they are unable to attend training.
- Attitude at training will be taken into consideration when selecting the team for matches.

Team selection & playing time.

Minor rounds:

- Coaches where possible will give equal on-field time for each age level.
- All players will continue to get exposure in a range of positions and may begin to focus and develop in a mid-field, defensive or offensive role.
- If team lists extend beyond the number of players required to play, players will be required to be rostered off each week during the season or may be asked to play for the opposing team if they are short.
- If possible, Coaches and Team Managers should give parents and players the opportunity to advice in advance, any times of unavailability to ensure these games missed are counted as games rostered off.

Finals:

- All selected players will take the field/oval.
- All roles need to be respected including playing, reserves, coaches, parents, and supporters.
- The older children will be given preference but may not always be picked in front of a younger aged junior colt player.

Senior Colts:

- As deemed by NAFA a Senior colt player is decided as being 17 and under on the 1st of January to 14 on the first of January in this current season.
- If more players are required to form a team, willing players in the next year level younger will be rotated to fill any vacancies.
- Girls are unable to play Senior Colts.
- Teams are selected by the coach and team manager.

- The Football Committee Junior Representative may be utilised as a resource if required by the selectors and coach.
- Any individual cases which require exceptions to the age criteria require a permit from N.A.F.A.

Training

- Training will be inclusive and challenge all players at their individual level of development.
- Non-attendance at training will impact on field time if not advised, and attitude at training will be taken into consideration when selecting the team for matches.
- Coaches will acknowledge the difference between bereavement and chosen absences in comparison to not notifying the coach if they are unable to attend training.

Team selection & playing time.

Minor & Final rounds:

- Players may begin to focus and develop in a mid-field, defensive or offensive role.
- All roles need to be respected including playing, reserves, coaches, parents, and supporters.
- If team lists extend beyond the number of players required to play, players will be required to be rostered off each week during the season. If possible, Coaches and Team Managers should give parents and players the opportunity to advice in advance, any times of unavailability to ensure these games missed are counted as games rostered off.

What we ask you to do

Players

- *Demonstrate a positive attitude and commitment.*
- *Give 100% at trainings and matches.*
- *Demonstrate respect for umpires and officials.*
- *Develop respect for teammates and coaches.*
- *Contribute to their team in many ways.*

Coaches

- *Promote a positive attitude.*
- *Provide challenges based on individual player development.*
- *Give the team every opportunity to be competitive.*
- *Model positive interactions and resilience.*
- *Promote inclusion.*
- *Be supportive in the quest for developing umpires through positive feedback.*
- *If you coach your own children, treat them like all other team members (e.g., rotations, playing time or participation).*
- *Where on field coaching is permitted (Minis), understand your role and positioning.*
- *Off field coaching requires the use of a runner (Junior Colts).*
- *Coach in a manner which ensures that the safety and welfare of the players is of the utmost importance.*

Parents

- *Communicate respectfully and work together with coaches.*
- *Model positive behaviour.*
- *Foster independence in your child by allowing them to take ownership of their performance.*
- *Develop resilience together with your child.*
- *Encourage your child to embrace challenges and give maximum effort.*
- *Support the coach at trainings and games.*

- *Focus on your child's effort, not the score.*
- *Positively encourage your child and other team members.*
- *Respect the selection decisions of the coach.*
- *Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, officials, parents, volunteers, and spectators.*

Further Information: If a player's level of development and confidence requires them to remain in a lower grade an exemption can be applied for through NAFA after discussion with the Jamestown Peterborough Football Committee and family.

Junior & Mini Carnivals: Selection for carnival teams will be based upon year level/age. In the event of large numbers, older players will be given preference.

In the event of concerns/ grievances with our selection process. Please refer to the JPFNC Conflict Resolution and Grievance policy. *The policy will be reviewed annually at the AGM of the Jamestown Peterborough Football Committee.*

Heat Rules for Junior and Youth Trainings

The forecast temperature on the day prior to training session will be checked with information obtained from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

Based on the forecast temperatures the following action will occur:

Temperature: 26°-30°C

Action: Training will be modified by reducing intensity of session.

Increase frequency and length of breaks.

Adequate water supplies will be available.

Temperature: 31°-35°C

Action: Limited intensity.

Maximum duration of 60min.

Increase frequency and length of breaks.

Adequate water supplies will be available.

Temperature: 36°C and above.

Risk of heat illness is extreme.

Postpone training until conditions cool or cancel if necessary. Parent will be notified the day prior to assist in travel arrangements.

Mouthguards: Mouthguards have a definite role in preventing injuries to the teeth and face and for this reason they are strongly recommended at all levels of football.

Mouthguards should be worn for all games and training sessions.

Dentally fitted laminated mouthguards offer the best protection. 'Boil and bite' type mouthguards are not recommended for any level of play as they can dislodge during play and block the airway.

There is some preliminary scientific evidence that mouthguards may prevent concussion or other brain injuries in Australian Football.

We (Parents/Guardians) _____

of the playing member(s) _____,

have read and understood the 2024 Junior Football policy and will abide by it as parents or guardians of the playing member(s) of the Jamestown & Peterborough Football and Netball Club.

Signature (Parents/Guardians): _____

Date: _____