



## **PLAYER EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCESS**

### **Grading Policy**

The following guidelines have been developed for players, parents and coaches to inform them of the grading policies of the club. We hope this information will help explain the sometimes hard task the coaches and administrators have in grading players. The aim of MFC is to provide players with an environment where they can enjoy the game of football and develop their skills to allow them to compete to the best of their abilities. Our club takes pride in the fact that we provide a pathway for talented juniors to pursue further avenues at state and national level with the prospect of one day playing in the senior Premier Leagues or above.

We believe that players will develop their football skills and gain more enjoyment from the game if they are playing with others of similar ability. Players from U9 will therefore be graded each year so that they are placed in to a team with players of similar football ability. Each team will then be placed within a division of similar football teams within the Brisbane Zone.

This policy will allow players who are new to the game or whose skills are yet to develop, to have more involvement in games ie. more touches of the ball; which will allow them to improve their ball skills and build confidence. Players with more advanced skills will find playing with, and against players of similar ability more challenging and enjoyable.

## **Skills and Attributes**

Players will be assessed for the following skills and attributes:-

- Technical Skills
- Passing – weight and accuracy
- Dribbling – control
- Kicking – accuracy over medium ranges

## **Game Skills**

- Position – understands where they should be during game
- Team Player – plays as a team, not as an individual
- Reading the game – makes the right decisions
- Movement – on and off the ball
- Principles of play – attacking and defending
- Communication – verbally helps direct team mates on the fields
- Vision – ability to see whole field and make decisions accordingly

## **Personal and Physical Attributes**

- Drive – desire to do well and improve
- Self confidence – has confidence in skill and ability
- Aggressiveness – goes hard for ball, doesn't back off
- Determination – doesn't quit under pressure
- Responsibility – accepts responsibility and errors
- Leadership – wants to take charge of others
- Coachable – learns concepts quickly and listens well
- Attitude and Behaviour – Respect for others
- Sportsmanship
- Endurance – doesn't tire easily, can play entire game
- Speed – can get to the ball first over medium range distances
- Quickness balance agility – change directions easily/quickly
- Muscular strength and power

## **Assessment Process**

To assess the above skill sets and player attributes the grading process will have 3 components:

1. Skills tests
2. Game trials
3. Coach and manager assessment

A grading panel will observe skills tests and game trials. The grading panel will consist of a coordinator and at least two (ideally 4) additional experienced coaches or players, of which one is at least totally independent of the age group they are assessing.

Where possible, last season's coaches and managers will be required to complete a player evaluation sheet for each player. The evaluation sheet will require the coach and manager to assess each of the players' skills and attributes based on their experience from the previous season. Grading assessment sheets and player evaluation sheets are the confidential property of Moggill FC.

## **Final Team Placement**

After preferences are taken into account, players will be allocated teams according to ranking and numbers. Moggill FC will endeavour to make the grading process as fair and equitable as possible.

## **Grading Decisions**

Grading is basically an opinion; some players will obviously stand out, and this is usually due to an early physical or personal skill development. It is the policy of the club to re-grade players each year, so every player has the opportunity to progress. It is important to note that junior players differ in their ability and move through the various stages of development at different rates. The club encourages parents and players not to focus on which team a player is in, rather on the player's own soccer development. All grading is done by a panel of experienced coaches who are appointed by the Committee. The aim of the club is to grade players as fairly as possible.

Some parents place undue pressure on their children expecting them to always be in the top team. We suggest parents help their children through the grading process by being supportive. Our request is that, in cases where a parent is in disagreement with the end result, they accept the final decision of the club officials. We ask that you trust our ability and honesty in selections.

### **Concerns about Grading Decisions**

Please note that issues such as friendship and shared transport cannot be taken into account unless a player is choosing to play in a lower division than graded. Once players are placed into teams by the grading panel, they will only be moved into a higher graded team on the basis of an assessment conducted by the Director of Coaching.

Any concerns about grading assessments should be directed through the Secretary ([secretary@moggillfc.org.au](mailto:secretary@moggillfc.org.au)) who will pass this on to the Grading Panel for consideration. If necessary the matter may be brought to the Committee.