



Welcome to FC Nelson for the 2016 season. We hope that your child has an enjoyable season with us. The following information serves as a guide to some of the procedures and processes involved in player placement in the Junior Club.

Player Placement in Teams 2016 Parent/Player Information

It is the Clubs view, and is consistent with the Junior Regulations that each player should play in their correct age group grade from the commencement of the season. Discretion to play up/down a grade will only be considered after consultation with the Director of Football and the Junior Coordinator. Dispensations from 2015 years are not carried over to 2016 and submissions will be made to NBF by the Junior Co-ordinator after consultation with the Director of Football. Dispensations are not granted by the club - Nelson Bays Football are responsible for granting or declining individual dispensations.

- It is the Junior Coordinator's responsibility in consultation with the Director of Football to:
 - create teams that meet the best outcomes for the club and the player.
 - Place players in teams that meet the club outcomes that include but may not be limited to – participation in football, player development, team make up, team performance, safety of all players, supporting the coaches and managers.
- All player registration fees must be paid in full before the 31st March, unless prior arrangement has been made with the Junior Co-ordinator, in which case please address requests to megan.healey@fcnelson.co.nz. Please note, if you have elected to trial, you MUST be registered prior to trial dates as we need your contact details on file for subsequent contact. If we don't have your details, you may be missed in the call back process.
- Closing of registrations – the close off for registrations for those electing to trial is no later than Tuesday 16th February. Registrations for those not attending trials, and for 9th and 10th Grade, will remain open until Friday 26th February. Entries received outside of these close off dates may result in missing placement in a team. (Please note, registrations for First Kicks through to Fun Football (7th and 8th grade) will remain open until further notice.
- It is the Junior Coordinator's responsibility to ensure a team does not have too many players for the grade they are playing in. This is in line with NZF Junior Guidelines. In general, teams may have 3 additional players (to those required on the field of play) to allow for – sickness, injury, religious or other beliefs or extended holidays. There may be instances where we need to be flexible with this due to numbers registering etc.

- Teams who are found to be playing players who are a) not registered and/or financial, b) not placed in the team by the club, c) not of the correct age (without dispensation) will be asked to step down from the competition. Players who are not financial (fees paid) by the due date, will not be eligible for club based awards or development team selection, unless by prior arrangement. NBF will again be operating their team card system and coaches/managers are expected to keep accurate records for audit. More information about this will be communicated at a later date.
- The club appreciates the social reasons players may wish to remain together as a team during their developing football years, however while we will do our best to meet these needs; we offer no guarantee that players will remain together.
 - o A player's development will be considered when placing them in teams within a grade
 - o Coaches and the Director of Football's views will be considered
 - o The need to ensure each team is competitive, if electing to play in the competitive grade.
 - o If competitive football is not your preference and you elect not to trial, we will do our best to accommodate requests.

Game Time

- Fun Football/ Mini Football – Grade 7-12. All players shall play a reasonable amount of game time each week and it is the *responsibility of the coach* to determine this.
- Junior Football – grade 13 & 14 there is an expectation that players will be given a reasonable amount of game time each week. This can at times be hard to manage, however there is an expectation that all players named on the playing card will take the field. Coaches will be encouraged to make it clear to players that ability is not the only reason to be given game time. Consideration should be made for commitment (turning up to training each week and training hard) , and a positive attitude. If a player is showing a tendency to cause disruption in the team, despite being asked to improve behaviour, then there is a case for withholding game time as a consequence. For a better coach/player experience, coaches should make their expectations around behaviour and consequences of poor behaviour very clear at the first training, including ensuring parents are also aware of your expectations.

Trial and Grading Process

- It is important to emphasise that the *grading trials are not compulsory*. In other words, no player needs to attend a trial to be enrolled in a team in the Club.
- However if a player wishes to be considered for a competitive (blue division) squad then they must attend at least one trial. There will be a second trial if needed at the discretion of the Club.
- If a player is unable to attend a trial due to other commitments, then the Club will do its best to arrange an alternative option.
- Although trials are not compulsory the Club encourages each player to participate in the trials for reasons which the Club believes has long term benefits to both the Club and the player. Due to the 5 Rep. rule that NBF have in place from 12th grade onwards, competitive teams will be put together with consideration for not only players who have been successful in making Rep. teams, but those that wish to trial who may have missed out or didn't elect to trial for reps. For this reason, we encourage all players to trial who wish to be considered for more competitive teams.
- The benefits to the Club are that its teams are playing in grades which are suitable for the level of ability of the team.
- From the player's point of view the purpose of the trial is to, as much as possible, achieve the outcome whereby the player is in a team which is best suited to that player's ability. It is clear that for any individual it is frustrating to play in a team which is clearly above or below their level of ability.
- From the player's point of view it is also important to give each one the opportunity to develop their skills as much as possible and play at the highest level possible.

- For each grade (11th – 14th) the Club aims to have up to two trials. The second trial, if required, will be held at the clubs discretion. You will be notified as to the outcome of the first trial by email and if you are required for a second trial.
- Those who are unsuccessful in trialing for a competitive team, will be placed in a team for the red/yellow division at the conclusion of trials and notified accordingly. Due to NBF grading process, it is still possible that a team in the red division can be moved up at the end of the round into the blue division, depending upon performance.
- In the interests of a fair and transparent trial process, selectors will include (but not limited to) the Director of Football, FC Nelson Junior committee members and a representative from Nelson Bays Football. Coaches who have expressed interest in coaching in 2016 will be assisting and advising at the latter stages of the process. The Director of Football oversees the trial process and has the final say in player placement.
- The trials are not designed to be pressurised, we encourage the players to enjoy it as much as possible
- It is important the parents and caregivers provide positive encouragement towards all players at the trials.
- Parent 'coaching' from the side-lines is not permitted. This is to ensure that the Club is viewing your child and making assessments based on *the players own* knowledge, skills, ability and vision of the game.
- Players may be trialled in different positions to their preferences, this may be due to numbers trialing, mix of players and the selectors wanting to see other options.
- Team announcement will be made via our website and team lists emailed to coaches for distribution to players.

Questions / Concerns

Please address **ALL** questions and concerns regarding any of the above points in the first instance to the Junior Co-ordinator, Megan Healey megan.healey@fcnelson.co.nz

Thank you

Andy Morris - FC Nelson Director of Football

Megan Healey – Junior Co-ordinator