

Marist Canberra Football Club

Grading Policy



Overview

Marist Football enters teams in various age groups and divisions of Capital Football's MiniRoos and Junior League competitions. At the beginning of the season, Marist Football will undertake a grading process to assess each player's skills and form teams who have a similar level of ability and potential.

Desired outcomes

- To ensure there is a fair, objective and consistent method for assessing a player's skills, ability and potential for development in the game.
- To ensure that a player is allocated to a team that gives them the best opportunity to fully participate, develop and enjoy football.
- To ensure that Marist Football is able to field competitive teams at all levels, that are good ambassadors for Marist College Canberra.

Responsibility

- The grading process is the responsibility of the Marist Football Committee, led by the President.
- A grading sub-committee may be formed to assist with the management and conduct of the grading process.
- Experienced coaches will provide assistance to assess players during the grading sessions.

General principles

1. Eligibility and age groups

- 1.1 To play for Marist Football and participate in the grading process, a player must be a current student at Marist College Canberra, and be registered in PlayFootball.
- 1.2 A player should register and grade within the following age groups:

School year	Football age group
Year 4	Under 10
Year 5	Under 11
Year 6	Under 12
Year 7	Under 13
Year 8	Under 14
Year 9	Under 15
Year 10	Under 16
Years 11 & 12	Under 18 (including First XI and Second XI teams)

- 1.3 As Marist Football enters competitive teams in all age groups, a request to play up an age group cannot be accommodated.
- 1.4 From time to time the number of players registered in each age group may result in difficulty forming viable teams. In this situation, Marist Football may direct some boys to play in a different age group.

2. Grading sessions

- 2.1 Grading is conducted annually, over two weekends in late February or early March.
- 2.2 Each age group will have a minimum of two sessions. Dates and times will be advertised on the Marist Football website and social media.
- 2.3 If a grading session is cancelled due to weather, every attempt will be made to schedule a replacement session.
- 2.4 If required, Marist Football may schedule an additional grading session at the conclusion of the original program.

3. Grading process

- 3.1 During a grading session a player will participate in a number of drills and a trial match to assess their skills in accordance with the FFA National Curriculum.
- 3.2 A player's performance will be observed by a number of graders, each who assigns a score against the skills criteria.
- 3.3 A player's scores will then be averaged and all players ranked and placed into teams.
- 3.4 In forming teams, Marist Football may also take into account other factors including; performance in prior seasons, input from previous coaches, goalkeeping ability and spread of numbers across teams.
- 3.5 Teams will be announced via email usually by mid-March.

4. Inability to attend a grading session

- 4.1 The scheduled grading sessions are the best opportunity for a player to be assessed, so every effort should be made to attend at the allocated times.
- 4.2 If a player cannot attend a grading session Marist Football must be advised in advance by emailing registrar@maristfootball.com.au. Where possible Marist Football will arrange for the player to attend a replacement grading session e.g. nearest age group.
- 4.3 If a player is unable to attend a grading session due to illness, injury or attendance at a Marist summer sports commitment, Marist Football is able to consider their prior performance and experience in order to determine team placement.

5. Election to not participate in grading

- 5.1 A player may choose not to participate in the grading process and instead be placed in the lowest division team within their age group.

6. Consideration for a division 1 or 2 team

- 6.1 To be considered for a division 1 or 2 team a player *must* attend a minimum of two grading sessions (additional requirements for First XI – refer section 7). The only exception to this requirement is included in section 4.3.
- 6.2 Marist Football requires a strong commitment from a player who wishes to participate in a division 1 team. A division 1 player must ensure that their involvement in any other sport or activity will not impact their commitment throughout the season. If a division 1 coach deems that there is an ongoing impact on the team, it may be necessary to move the player into a lower division.

7. Under 18 grading (including First XI and Second XI)

- 7.1 To be considered for the First XI or Second XI team, a player must be a student in Year 11 or 12.
- 7.2 Under 18 grading will consist of a minimum of four sessions including trial matches. A player must attend these sessions to the best of his ability. Despite this, participation in a Marist summer sport activity must take precedence when there is a clash of times.
- 7.3 If a player is unable to attend any of the Under 18 grading sessions, or if there are any circumstances that may affect a player's performance (e.g. injury), the First XI Coach must be advised via email prior to the session.
- 7.4 If a player is unable to attend an Under 18 grading sessions due to injury, illness, or a Marist summer sport commitment, Marist Football is able to consider prior performance and experience in order to determine the composition of the First XI and Second XI team.
- 7.5 Attendance at the Under 18 grading sessions does not guarantee a position in either the First XI or Second XI team.

8. Special requests

- 8.1 A request to be placed in a team with a particular friend/s or coach cannot be accommodated.
- 8.2 As Marist Football enters competitive teams in all age groups, a request to play up an age group cannot be accommodated.
- 8.3 If there are any significant pastoral care issues around a team placement, please make a request to our President (president@maristfootball.com.au) for consideration on a case-by-case basis.

9. National Premier League (NPL), Capital Premier League (NPL) and Under 12 SAP players

- 9.1 Students at Marist College Canberra who have received an exemption to play in a NPL, CPL or Under 13 SAP team do **not** participate in the Marist Football grading process.
- 9.2 If an NPL, CPL or Under 13 SAP player chooses to join Marist Football after the grading process, they are not guaranteed a placement in a division 1 or 2 team.

10. Disputes

- 10.1 Any question or grievance with respect to grading or team allocation must be made in writing and emailed to president@maristfootball.com.au within three days of the team announcements.
- 10.2 Marist Football will examine the request and review the grading results. A reply, including details of ranking and constructive feedback, will be provided within five days.
- 10.3 The President and the College's Football Coordinator (teacher in charge), will make the final decision regarding grading and team allocation.

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