



## **SRFC Grading Policy – Winter Competition**

### **Grading Policy**

SRFC is a community focused football club that believes in promoting participation, equal opportunity for all players, development of football and team skills, and enjoyment of the game. To achieve this, SRFC offers social football games, weekly training throughout the winter competition and participation in the CDSFA Winter Competition in a range of age and skill levels.

SRFC's Grading Policy is an attempt to place players in a competitive team that is appropriate to their level of skill development, age and general interest in the game. It allows players to play at a level appropriate to their ability and aspirations, to ensure everyone in the game gains maximum enjoyment and development as players and individuals.

The Club encourages all players to take part in the team selection process. It is essential that returning players participate in the process as this will provide the best basis for benchmarking new players and allow the most appropriate placement of all players within the club; invited, returning and new. We encourage all players to attend as many of the grading trial games as possible, for them to be considered for selection in an SRFC team as the grading of players will be based on the current pre-season performance, fitness and attitude in addition to their performance throughout the prior season.

### **Why Select Players and When?**

Players with all skill levels will play alongside each other in the trial games to give them the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities with players they are perhaps not used to playing with.

Players of similar skills, assigned to their correct age and competitive division will contribute more to their own and their team's development, adding to their overall enjoyment of the game. Players must enjoy football to have the right motivation to learn and remain interested in the game.

New players will be invited to play for SRFC for the Winter Competition during and at the completion of the Trial Games where there are vacancies in teams matching their skill set and their position.

### **Implementation / Selection**

The Selection Committee will include Team Coaches and the SRFC Football Director to conduct the grading process for each team with assistance and input from the SRFC Committee.

### **How are Coaches Selected?**

The SRFC Committee aims to appoint all Team Coaches at the latest by 31 December in the year preceding the new competition. Typically, in order, the Committee will approach Team Coaches from the prior year, any former Coaches who did not coach in the previous year, and then any other experienced players that have expressed interest in coaching.



We are a community grass roots level club and as in any voluntary activity it can be difficult to find volunteers for roles such as coaching. Wherever possible we will attempt to find a volunteer for the coaching role, but ultimately the team must take individual and team responsibility for filling that position. The Committee does on occasion request experienced players to move between teams to provide leadership and coaching coverage across teams, but the Committee does not ask players to play in higher divisions than their playing capability and therefore effective contribution can allow.

### **How are Players Selected?**

To provide continuity in teams and to allow the club to benefit from players playing together long term and to let players benefit from the previous season's achievements (i.e. promotions), players are generally placed into their previous year teams where possible.

Situations where this might not happen could be:

- A player has requested to be regraded (aiming for a different division or age group);
- The coach of the player's team has requested a player to be regraded (for consideration for a different division, different age group or social football); or
- Vacancies or additions to the club have meant that their team or those surrounding them are unbalanced and a reallocation of players is required.

There are several criteria that form the basis of our evaluation to match players to the right SRFC team. These are (in alphabetical order):

- 1) Attitude;
- 2) Fitness;
- 3) Technical ability ; and
- 4) Training commitment.

### **How are Teams Selected?**

SRFC will endeavor to create a balance between attack and defence in each of our teams and not simply put the top 16 players in the first team. This means that some players may end up in a lower team than their skill/ ability might at first suggest because there are players ahead of them in their preferred position.

The Club's preferred formation is 1-4-3-3 and forms the basis of grading, aiming to provide each team with 16 players;

- 1 goalkeeper
- 3 central defenders
- 3 full backs
- 3 central midfielders
- 3 wingers
- 3 attacking midfielders/ strikers



Teams may be allocated additional players to provide squad depth to cover for absentees for various reasons such as injuries or extended holidays.

Players will be notified which team they are in at the completion of the Trial Games.

### **Disputes and Change Requests**

If there are any requests for changes or disputes, these need to be sent to [committee@sydneyrangersfc.com.au](mailto:committee@sydneyrangersfc.com.au) within 5 days of the announcement of the squads. These will be considered by the SRFC Committee and Selection Committee within 1 week whereby a final decision will be communicated to the player and team.

### **Training commitment**

SRFC holds one training session per week on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm at its home ground (or an alternative venue if the home ground is unavailable). Subject to player numbers, ground availability and coach availability the club may increase the number of weekly training sessions in the future.

All players are encouraged to attend as many training sessions as possible as this is beneficial to the team's performance.

Players in our premier As team are expected to have the highest commitment to training. In order to qualify to play for the As players are expected to attend a minimum of 60% of training sessions; no exemptions allowed.

In order to qualify for the Bs team players are expected to attend a minimum of 50% of training sessions, exemptions are allowed, when agreed with the coach of the team prior to the grading process.

The Cs team are encouraged to attend a minimum of 50% of the training sessions.

There are no minimum training requirements for the over 35s but training is encouraged and is beneficial to team performance.

Failure to meet the training commitments made by the player pre-season may result in reduced game time in all skill groups.