

GRFC Rep Team Selection Policy

Team Selection Philosophy

The ultimate goal of this player selection process is to provide players with the best possible experience in an environment where they can grow as athletes and people. This process helps to identify the level of play that is most suited to players at this moment in time.

Our approach to player selection is designed to promote positive competitive experiences, and to inspire and develop all athletes in a way that is consistent with the clubs objectives. Furthermore, we are committed to developing a club for the entire community that supports and develops all players fairly.

Children develop physically, emotionally and mentally at different rates and this needs to be taken into consideration when placing them on a team. Players who play on teams that exceed their technical abilities, speed and desired level of commitment are more likely to have a negative experience. While players (and parents) may be upset in the short term if they are not placed on a team at their desired level, in the long run, it will facilitate their continued love of, and participation in, the sport if they play with others of a similar ability.

Team Purpose

- Travel teams are competitive teams, and therefore while the club is inclusive, teams in U11, U13 and U15 will be selected for competitive play. Any U9 travel team will have a greater emphasis on attending for experience, and if multiple teams are able to be registered, teams will be balanced.

Team 'Try Outs'

- All players wishing to be considered must be registered.
- There will be a minimum of one 'Open Assessment' for U9, and two 'Open Assessments' for U11, U13 and U15 teams. Assessments will have skill, modified game and full game elements.
- More assessments may be organised dependant on coach and selection committee availability

Team Numbers

- A full U9 team will consist of 10 players
A full U11 team will consist of 14 players
A full U13 team will consist of 16 players
A full U15 team will consist of 16 players

* A maximum of 2 Alternate players will be selected. These players are expected to train with the team, but not play tournaments unless called up.

Player Evaluations

- Players will be evaluated at Open Assessments by a minimum of 3 'selection committee'. The selection committee is made up of a coach, technical director, and another club official (where possible the age group director). Where possible, a non partisan club player/member should also be included.
- Evaluations will be both numerical and descriptive
- Upon review of the player evaluations, the first half (plus 1) of the roster will be filled automatically by players that the selection committee has agreement with eg. for a 14 player team, this is the first 7 spots + 1. The remaining spots are to be filled through by coach choice (using the selection committee feedback and their own observations).
- Please note that player evaluations are not provided to players or parents.
- Selection criteria will be available for parents and players
- Players not selected in a 'REP 1' team are available for 'REP 2' teams.
- Alternate players for 'REP 1' teams can be selected in 'REP 2' teams
- Players not selected for teams can ask for feedback regarding areas for improvement after a 24 hour cooling off period.
- Following the completion of the assessments, the section committee will decide on their final selections and notify the successful players first asap.

Selection Criteria

- Factors will play a role in determining which players are or are not successful are likely to include, but are not limited to:
 - technical attributes (soccer skills)
 - tactical attributes (eg. moving in space, transitions in attack and defense, positioning in attack and defense, applying a team plan)
 - physical attributes and conditioning
 - commitment level
 - willingness to work well with teammates
 - willingness to accept coaching and instruction
 - numbers of players preferring to play certain positions.
- The majority of the selection criteria will be determined by the club's technical team, though the coach may add several specific criteria in line with the clubs vision, the coaches playing style and through collaboration with the technical director.
- 'Players do NOT need to attend all tryout sessions in order to be selected, however, we expect that parents communicate the reason for non attendance to help coaches understand absences'.
- Players unavailable for tryout sessions due to injury, sickness, extended holiday or reasons outside of their control may be selected if parents/guardians have communicated the issue prior to tryouts, if the team number allows it and if a 'makeup' tryout or evaluation can occur by the coach or with the team. The spirit of this statement is to ensure that players, their participation and their development are not disadvantaged by events out of their control."