



Earlwood Wanderers Football Club Team Selection - Parent FAQ

Grading Process and Parent FAQ's

The following are questions that parents may have around the grading process:

1. *Do I need to register my Son or Daughter for the trials?*

Yes. All registrations nationally are done online.

The club will send out and distribute an email (and link) to our members and publish the process on the club's website. Should players turn up unregistered, they will need to register online before the player can join the grading session. EWFC reserves the right to turn away players who have not registered online prior to the grading session.

2. *What is the EWFC Grading Policy?*

Earlwood Wanderers Football Club (EWFC) is a community oriented sports club and believes in promoting participation in our game, equal opportunity for all players, development of football and team skills, and above all, enjoyment of the game.

EWFC recognises that players and parents have a variety of motives in playing football and subsequently possess different levels of aptitude and interest in the game dependent on their background, experiences, skill level, playing ability and age. With these and other factors in mind, EWFC's Team Selection Policy is an attempt to place players in a division and team that is appropriate to their level of skill development and general interest in the game. It allows players to play at a level appropriate to their ability and aspirations, to ensure they gain maximum enjoyment and development as a player and as an individual.

While EWFC encourages all players to take part in the team selection process, it is not compulsory. As a club, we are aware that grading is not for everybody and we provide opportunities for all our players who wish to participate and be involved in the game, be it at a purely social/recreational level or at a more competitive level.

3. *Who performs the Grading of Players within an Age Group?*

The EWFC's Head Coach and Committee will convene and, where necessary, appoint Selectors comprised of qualified Coaches to conduct grading for each age group.

The results of the grading process and assessment of individual players by the Selectors will be used as a substantive basis by the Head Coach and Committee to form.

4. *Why is the club grading?*

To allow players of similar ability to train, play and compete together. The club has published guidelines and procedures on how EWFC selects a graded team. No member (Coach or Manager or Parent) is permitted to poach or recruit players from existing EWFC teams or grade a team outside of our club's policy; transparency about grading is essential to our process.

5. *What involvement do the team coaches have during grading?*

Team coaches are not permitted to act as Selectors at any of the grading sessions. At the discretion and invitation of the Head Coach and Committee, the current or future Division 1 and/or Division 2 team coach may be asked to provide input or feedback on certain players to ensure all aspects of a player's ability and contribution have been taken into consideration.

6. *Are you grading the Entire Age Group?*

Yes. EWFC will make grading sessions available for players and in particular those who wish to play their football at the highest level our club has to offer. eg; Division 1 and/or Division 2.

7. *Do you grade other divisions?*

It is EWFC responsibility to ensure that its teams are graded in an appropriate division for review by the CDSFA Grading Committee.

8. *If I was in a graded team last year do I need to tryout?*

Yes. Players in current Division 1 & 2 graded teams do NOT automatically retain their place in a graded team. EWFC's graded teams will be drawn from those players attending the trials.

9. *What is the timeline for the season grading?*

Grading sessions will be held by age group and assessed in sessions, conducted over the published period. U8-U17 Boys & Girls sessions are generally held during early February. Please refer to the EWFC website for dates, times and venues.

10. *If a team chooses not to participate, will EWFC accept our team in our requested division based on our past performance?*

The composition of teams based on "individual player" grading is not compulsory for our members and our Club has no problem with Coaches, Managers and Players continuing to play with last season's lower division team and with their friends. Teams choosing not to grade will be scheduled to play in the same division as last season, depending on the age group, number of EWFC teams and CDSFA Grading Review.

All teams - graded or not - are subject to the grading policies and decisions of CDSFA. The final decision on which division a team plays in rests with CDSFA and is based on previous player and team results.

11. *Some players -or their parents, while wishing to remain in the current team, may be interested in an objective assessment of how their child performs compared to others. Is it possible for players to attend the trials, while remaining in their current team irrespective of their grading?*

No. Please note the club and its officials volunteer much of their time and efforts to make this happen. The club feels strongly about this and would appreciate that this time and effort is not treated as "Just a Kick Around".

12. *Will priority be given to existing EWFC players or is grading open to outsiders?*

EWFC grading sessions are open to everyone. However, EWFC will support returning club players who have an established history of playing for the club. Where an age group has more than one graded team, priority for positions in a second graded team will be given to last season's EWFC graded players who were unsuccessful in being selected for next season's Division 1 team.

13. *When will I know if my Son/Daughter is selected?*

The EWFC Grading Committee will invite successful players to join a graded team via email within 10 working days (or earlier) of the final grading session. Successful players will have a strictly limited time period in which to accept the offer. Should any player not accept the offer or decline the offer, the next highest ranked player will then be invited, until all places in the graded team are filled.

14. *If my boy/girl misses out on a graded team then what happens next?*

EWFC players who do not receive an invitation to join a graded team will be allocated a place in their previous season's team as per standard registration policy. If this team is disbanded, then the player will be directed to the Age Coordinator for allocation to a suitable team. Non-EWFC players will also be directed to the appropriate Age Coordinator and are subject to the rules, regulations and policies governing new player registrations.

15. *Can I appeal if unsuccessful in making the graded team?*

Our grading follows set grading criteria and is conducted by independent, highly qualified coaches. Players may appeal a decision by writing/emailing to their age coordinator with their objection and supporting information to substantiate their claim. The appropriate Committee will assess the claim and deliver its decision to the player and/or parent within 10 days. The Committee's decision is final unless any appeal to the EWFC executive committee for a review is successful.