



COOMERA CUTTERS DIVISION GRADING POLICY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Coomera Cutters JRLC grading policy has been approved by the executive committee and should be read by all parents, existing players, coaches and new members.

At the beginning of each new season, International junior players (sometimes including U12s) are graded into teams based on their ability level. The grading process gives all players the opportunity to demonstrate their talents to unbiased selectors thus giving all players (irrespective of the team they played with the previous season) a chance to play in the highest division (or pool) according to their ability, in the new season.

Young players can change dramatically during a twelve month period. Care must also be taken to cater for players who are not "DIV1". It adds to a player's enjoyment if they are playing with and against players of similar or equal ability. This gives each child the chance to fully participate, enjoy the experience and develop his/her full potential as a rugby league player. Past experience has shown that it is frustrating for any individual to play in a team sport which is clearly above or below their level of ability.

In house grading at Coomera Cutters endeavours to cater for all players of all abilities.

Unfortunately the number of players registered in any age group, plus adhering to the rules stipulated by GCJRL all DIV 1 sides will have a maximum of 17 players with the top twelve being named. All other divisions will have a maximum of 19 players. The club is conscious of adhering to the rules as set out.

The club has the care of all players at heart. Grading is a very difficult task and people, in some cases, may not agree with the decisions made by the grading panel. The club believes that it is an important part of each player's development as well as enjoying success. Being introduced to a new side presents opportunities for players to make new friends, leading to a positive rugby league experience overall.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

The grading policy is designed to address the needs of both members and the club, some of which might invariably conflict.

The objectives of CCJRLC grading are to ensure

A clear process for the grading of new and existing players is provided each year when required.

The possibility of bias is minimised by using neutral, experienced grading panellists to assist with the process.

All players have an opportunity to play in a competitive environment, appropriate to their skill level.

Players develop and appreciate the love of the game.

Players learn from their coaches and their peers.

The club looks to the future of fielding competitive teams in each age group and division.

A club culture defined that takes priority over any individual team culture.

Players, coaches and parents all enjoy the season, have fun and return to the club year after year.

3.0 PLAYER PHILOSOPHY

At Coomera Cutters the focus is on fun, participation, social interaction and learning. In the younger age groups a greater emphasis is put on forming social teams when players are grouped together with their friends or family members. However as the players become older and abilities become more disparate, the club and coaches begin to identify those players. The club looks to progressively group those players with similar ability and commitment to training and development., resulting in division teams.

4.0 GRADING PROCESS

The grading process begins at the return of preseason. Coaches have the advantages of seeing players develop in a somewhat unusual return, as in group training. They are able to recognise valuable information about a player's reliability work ethic and attitude. Coaches will be taking notes, looking at players who show up on time and ready to start, work well with team mates and be able to take criticism

All players who are wishing to trial must attend all grading games, to ensure they are placed into a team consistent with their demonstrated level of skill and ability. Players unable to attend but wanting to be placed in a higher division side must make an application in writing to the executive who will pass onto the relevant people to be considered. Where practical any members of the selection panel shall not undertake an active role in the grading of their own child. At no stage will Coomera Cutters guarantee to any individual player or parent to place children in a team that they believe would be best for their own personal gain or what they perceive may be best. Player and parent expectations may differ with the grading process and Coomera Cutters will not allow discussions between players or parents about a player's individual ability. Grading games/ or trials will be carried out prior to the commencement of the season, on a day and date determined by the executive. Trial matches shall commence once registrations have been fulfilled. In the best interests of a player and the club, CCJRLC grading panel may make decisions outside of the club grading policy in the forming f sides due to significant extenuating circumstances. These decisions will be at the discretion of the CCJRLC executive committee.

The announcement of teams will be shortly after trials, with the ability to move players during the first two rounds of the actual season.

We also must remember that early specialisation can result in overuse injuries, over training, boredom, limit skill development and prevent a broad understanding of the game. Our appointed coaches have proved in previous seasons their willingness to work together to the best of their abilities and make decisions that benefit our members.

Kids sport is for kids, not adults and we at Coomera emphasise, understand and prioritise exactly that.

Coomera Cutters executive