

BARWON HEADS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHARTER

OBJECTIVES

- To provide opportunities for children in Barwon Heads and surrounding districts to play football at junior levels.
- To facilitate a quality environment for players of football so they enjoy their participation and are supported to reach their potential.
- To field competitive football teams at all levels of junior competition within the Football Geelong umbrella.
- To establish the Barwon Heads Football & Netball Club as a valued and respected resource within the Barwon Heads community and to lead and initiate local partnerships.
- To develop and promote a family culture where all family and community members feel welcome, safe and accepted within the Barwon Heads Football Club environment.

Under 10, 12, 14 & 16 (under age @ Jan 1 in each year)

PRINCIPLES of PARTICIPATION

The Barwon Heads Junior Football Program is underpinned by three basic principles:

1. Enjoyment
Coaches, Managers and responsible adults ensure that all junior players enjoy their involvement. If participants enjoy playing their sport they will continue to play and advance through our junior program to senior levels.
2. Participation
All players regardless of ability have equal opportunity to participate. This includes that all players have equal playing time over the course of the year. For players to develop they need to be given opportunities.
3. Skill Development
Coaches and responsible adults strive to build upon and develop player skill levels so they can participate successfully. Without adequate skill development it is difficult for players to advance to higher age groups and levels of competition.

Under 10 & 12 & Under 14 & 16

PRINCIPLES of COMPETITION

The Barwon Heads Junior Football Program will be governed by the following competition philosophies:

U10 & 12 Competition Philosophy

The primary goal of the Under 10 & 12 level is to maximise participation and the quality of the entry level playing experience and after following the guidelines as far as is practical below:

- Siblings will follow siblings in team alignments.
- Once started players will be kept in the same groups as they go through.
- Family and friends requests will be respected.
- Both girls and boys may play.

The U10 & 12 program philosophy is to field teams of even skill, experience and age groups as far as is practical below:

- Even bottom age and top age players.
- Even spread of skills and ability.
- Participation time rather than performance is factored into coaches decisions.
- All players are evenly rotated for even playing time.
- All players are played in key positions throughout the season to maximise experience for every player.

U14 & 16 Competition Philosophy

The key difference as the players transition from Under 12 to Under 14 competition is that players will come into an environment where their coaching and management is designed towards maximum performance of the playing group as the primary goal whilst continuing to respect the Barwon Heads Junior Football Principles of Participation.

Teams will be graded into A & B (and C etc. determined by numbers) sides based on performance, ability and age (eg: top age v bottom age) as determined at the sole discretion of the coaches.

- Players within the Age group shall be favoured to play over under age players who may fill in from time to time.
- Players may be mixed between teams to ensure maximum Finals flexibility with team selection (i.e.: players may be played in A or B's to ensure qualification for Finals) at the sole discretion of the coaches.
- Players may be moved between teams based on performance and other factors such as commitment at the sole discretion of the coaches.
- Girls who wish to play beyond U12 level will be encouraged to go into any girls team that may be participating with the Club but may not play for boys sides above the U12 age group.

General Notes

- **AMBULANCE COVER**
The Barwon Heads Football & Netball Club recommends that all players have a current ambulance subscription. The club will not be responsible for ambulance costs incurred by any member. If an ambulance is called on your behalf and you do not have ambulance cover you agree to pay all associated costs.
- **PARENT/GUARDIAN HELPERS**
It is the junior parents/guardians responsibility to undertake game day duties ie. umpires, goal umpires, time keepers, interchange, runners etc. not team officials.
- **INJURIES**
No junior with an injury can take any active part in training or game day activities until cleared by their parent/guardian with the coach/team manager. For serious injuries such as; concussion, broken bones etc. the club requires clearance by the child's medical practitioner. No exception will be granted to a child with plaster to take part in any training or game day activities.
- **PARENT/GUARDIAN PRESENCE ON GAME DAY (U10's & U12's)**
It is a requirement of the Barwon Heads Junior Football that a parent or guardian must be present during the game for all U10's & U12's otherwise the child will not take the field on game day.
- **MOUTHGUARD**
Although not compulsory it is recommended that each child wear a mouthguard on game day and also at training.