



**NORMANHURST EAGLES
FOOTBALL CLUB**

A DIVISION OF NORMANHURST SPORTS CLUB
PO BOX 2092, NORMANHURST, NW 2076
ABN 15 125 993 821
WWW.NORMOEAGLES.COM.AU

NEFC GRADING POLICY

Normanhurst Eagles Football Club values strong family ties and provides opportunities for its members to play and develop their football skills in a competitive and supportive team environment that is underpinned by fair play and sporting principles. The Club strives to ensure that all players are treated fairly in a team-friendly environment regardless of their ability or background. The Club's grading process is governed by its rules and by-laws and follows the principles outlined below.

Grading is used by the NEFC to allocate players to suitable teams when it becomes appropriate to do so. It is designed to maximise each player's enjoyment of football by providing an appropriate level of competitive and/or social football. This grading policy covers both the Mixed and Girls competition.

The grading of players occurs across the NWSF association from U9 and above and aims to ensure that teams are competitive within the miniroos competition and to get players of a similar ability playing together. When teams have players of widely different ability in the same team, it can lead to frustration for both the higher and lesser skilled players and neither players develop their skills well. It also allows for teams to compete against teams with similarly matched players that enables even, competitive matches and minimising large score differences. Players (and parents) enjoy games far more when players are playing at the right level.

- Players in the **Under 6 and 7** age groups are **not graded** individually. These players are allocated to teams based on schools attended and friendship group requests (subject to overall team number limitations).
- Players in the Under 8 age groups may elect to try out for the **U8 Blue** side. This is the only graded side in the U8 competition and plays against teams that have been formed through a similar process at other clubs.. The formation of an U8 Blue team is at the discretion of the club based on the number of players and their ability to compete against other teams in the competition. The U8 Blue Grade is still run as a non-competitive (i.e. no competition tables) format. Where a Blue team is not able to be formed, players will be placed into teams as per other U8 players.
- Outside of the U8 Blue side, other Players **Under 8** age groups will be allocated to teams based on schools attended and friendships etc. as per the U6 and U7 age groups.
- Players in **Under 9 to Under 18** will be individually graded where there are sufficient numbers of players in that Age Group to form two or more teams. Grading is done on an individual basis not as a team.
- Players graded into the highest division team in the U8-U12 ages form part of our Development Squads. Further information on the [Development Squad programs](#) will be provided prior to the Grading sessions each year.

The grading of players takes place over several weekends prior to the start of the season to allow for teams to be formed. Grading is run by experienced coaches who are independent of the players being graded. The grading sessions can take the form of skill games, small sided games and larger games that are designed to observe a players skills on the ball, off the ball and in supporting play. Following the grading sessions, preliminary squads are



NORMANHURST EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

A DIVISION OF NORMANHURST SPORTS CLUB
PO BOX 2092, NORMANHURST, NW 2076
ABN 15 125 993 821
WWW.NORMOEAGLES.COM.AU

formed for trial matches after which players can be moved between teams as required prior to teams being finalised.

Players are expected to attend grading each year. Players who do not attend any grading sessions will not be eligible for the highest division team if the club has multiple teams in the age group, as this would not be fair to those players who have graded.

The Executive Committee, upon considering experience, ability, friendships, family and/or individual requests, will allocate players in the Under 21, All Age and Over 35 Age Groups to teams.

All players are required to play in their correct Age Group, except where the Executive Committee deems that a player playing in a higher Age Group is in the player, teams and Club's interest.

Last Updated: 23-Jan- 2024