



Grading Policy & Procedures

Grading of players is an important part of the clubs junior development & involvement in the game. It enables us to place players in appropriate teams alongside other players of similar skills & ability. At Quakers Hill Tigers we have varying stages of grading which allows kids from an early age to play & develop in a fun environment while also learning about the game.

In the U5 to U11 age groups all games are non-competitive.

Teams are ranked & placed into divisions identified with an animal name e.g. Koalas.

Each child is graded on a year to year basis and no position is secured based on previous years grading.

All players are required to grade in their actual age group. There will be consideration for upgrading into a higher age group on a case by case basis.

Please submit any letter of consideration to the executive committee via email to steel80@optusnet.com.au

STAGE 1 - U5 to U8 MiniRoos Ungraded:

At this age the game is 100% about fun & enjoyment. There is no competition or grading of individual players. We have a muster day where teams are put together with the help of parents so that kids can play with their friends. Teams are then ranked & placed into an animal group that best represents the overall skills & experience of the team. We ask for volunteers from parents within each team to be a coach or manager. We require all teams to have at least 1 coach & 1 manager before teams can be finalised. There is no coaching experience required at this age. More information about the role of the coach & manager for this age group can be obtained from the club.

STAGE 2 – U9 to U11 MiniRoos Graded:

In these age groups we begin grading individuals into teams according to their ability & skill level. There is still no competition in these age groups. We encourage the kids to play in all positions on the field so that they have an understanding of all positions which makes for more versatile players & gradually over these 4 years players will have been developed so that by the time they reach the next stage of grading we have a good understanding of our players for competition teams. All coaches are expected to have a current skill training coaching certificate. The club coach will appoint coaches according to their experience & qualifications.

STAGE 3 - U12 to U16 Competition - Graded:

All players are graded into teams based on a variety of different criteria including, but not limited to their skill level, ability, preferred position & attitude. All coaches are expected to have a current game training/senior level coaching certificate relevant to the age group they are coaching. The club coach will appoint coaches according to their experience & qualifications.

All teams are graded on a year to year basis. No position is secured based on previous year team.

APPEALS IN RELATION TO GRADING PROCESS AND TEAM FORMATION

- Scenarios may arise which have not been adequately addressed by this policy. Where this occurs, the issue will be referred through the Registrar to the Executive of the Club for a decision. Decisions by the Executive will be final.

Please email any disputes or concerns to the below email.

All disputes will be handled via email only

quakershilltigersgrading@gmail.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why are teams graded?

A. Grading is the only fair and equitable way of ensuring teams play with and against Players of similar skills and ability. Grading ensures that your child's involvement in the game, their contribution to the team, as well as their soccer skills, is optimised. While children may not always be able to play with their best friends, experience has shown that they quickly form friendships and bonds with their new teammates.

Q. Do you grade for team positions?

A. With the exception of goalkeepers, players are not usually graded into positions (e.g. fullback, right midfield, striker etc.). Rather they are graded into teams based on their overall performance at grading sessions. In the older age groups however it may be necessary to look for players to fill particular positions to balance the team.

Q. What happens if my child has to miss a grading session?

A. Time, weather and resources permitting, there are generally at least 1 grading session & are generally run over a few weeks and they are compulsory. If your child has a problem attending a grading session please contact the President. If for any reason your child cannot grade to their full potential due to injury or illness, please ensure to discuss this with the club prior to the session commencement.

Q. What happens if it is raining when we are supposed to be grading?

A. Unless Councils or clubs have closed the grounds because there is a danger to the players through the poor field condition, grading will proceed, raining or not. If a grading session needs to be cancelled we will notify players either by email or a message will be posted on the website. If time permits we will reschedule grading to another time.

Blacktown Councils wet weather number is 98396575

Q. Who is on the grading committee?

A. The grading panel is made up of experienced club coaches and/or players and, where possible, experienced coaches/players from other clubs.

Q. How successful is the club's grading process?

A. Very successful. While grading involves a degree of subjectivity the following Significantly lessens this:

1. The grading panel is headed by experienced coaches and graders

2. Final decisions are based on consensus after input of all members of the Grading panel.

3. The grading procedures follow best-practice principles and cover a broad Range of soccer skills including ball-skill drills and small-sided games. The Club believes the performance of its graded teams over the years provides Strong support for the current grading process and procedures.

Q. When & how will teams be announced?

A. We will have nominated days when each age group and their grades are Announced. For stage 2 & 3 graded teams it will generally be at the conclusion of their final grading session.

Q. What should I do if I have a concern with my child's team placement or the club's?

A. General issues, comments or enquiries regarding grading or the grading process Should be directed to the Club Executive committee. Requests for a re-grade or formal complaints must be in writing and addressed to: Quakers Hill Tigers Executive committee. This committee is made up of the most senior members of the committee. President – Secretary – Registrar – Vice President - Treasurer

As grading requires a significant investment in time, the club is always looking for assistance from experienced persons around grading time. If you are a qualified coach or experienced player and are interested in joining the grading panel please contact the President.

Q. Who will be my child's coach & manager?

A. All Coaches and managers are parent volunteers from within the team. These Coaches are encouraged to become accredited through coaching courses run by Relevant authorities. These courses equip coaches with up-to-date training techniques and outline the required drills and techniques to conduct a training session.

Q. When does my child train?

A. The training times are organised by your coach, usually after consultation with the Parents to find a time most suitable for everyone and field availability.

Q. Does your club embrace the child protection legislation?

A. Absolutely! All club officials, team coaches & managers must sign a "Working With Children" form and through the implementation of strategies that assist in Preventing child abuse from occurring, our club takes a pro-active role in helping to Foster a safe and positive environment for every child to participate. Copies of our

Policy Statement or Procedures are available on request.

Q. What do the registration fees pay for?

A. The registration fees cover:

- **Insurance.**
- **Registration fees to the Blacktown District Soccer Football Association.**
- **Affiliation fees to Football NSW.**
- **Affiliation fees to Football Federation of Australia.**
- **Ground hire to Council.**
- **Electricity for lighting of fields and amenities block.**
- **Maintenance and other fees relating to the grounds.**
- **Purchase of equipment such as balls, uniforms, trophies, pennants, etc.**
- **Continued improvements to our Park & the running of the Club.**
- **Ball for each junior player.**

Fees alone do not cover our outgoings.

We have to rely heavily on fundraising, canteen sales and sponsorship to help cover our costs. Committee members, coaches and managers are, without exception, all voluntary and they receive no remuneration for their services.

To volunteer in any of these roles, Canteen, sponsorship, team management please contact the executive.

Q. If I still have a question who do I call?

A. If unsure about anything regarding grading please email quakershilltigersgrading@gmail.com. No phone calls will be accepted