



# COMO JANNALI FOOTBALL CLUB

## CLUB PHILOSOPHY

CJFC seeks to “Improve the quality of play at every level and develop well rounded, resilient and technically competent players who learn to play football in the correct fashion and enjoy the game throughout all stages of life.”

### COMO JANNALI FOOTBALL CLUB (CJFC) – GRADING POLICY

The OBJECTIVES of the grading policy are designed to ensure that:

- All players have the maximum opportunity to play in a competitive and supported environment, appropriate to their skill and ability.
- Players learn from their peers, as well as their coach; and develop an appreciation and love of the game.
- Players, coaches and parents alike, have FUN, enjoy the season, and return to the club year after year.

The following guidelines have been developed for players, parents and coaches to inform them of the grading policies of the Club. We hope this information will help explain the sometimes complicated task that the Grading Committee and Coaching Director have.

Our Club takes pride in the fact that we provide a pathway for talented juniors to fulfil their football dreams. We also take pride in the fact that CJFC provides a broad social environment for young boys and girls who wish to participate at every level from Under 6’s through to our All Age and Premier League men’s and women’s teams.

With the responsibility of placing our players into teams and grades CJFC will show a commitment to promote fairness, consistency and transparency in the selection process.

We ask that you trust our ability and honesty in selections. The word grading is used in reference to:

a) Placement of players into “like skilled” groups that is where they are comfortable to play in.

- Unless your child is being graded into an ‘A’ or ‘B’ Grade side, all efforts will be made to ensure your child is playing with friends. This, however, **WILL NOT ALWAYS BE POSSIBLE**.

b) Registering Como Jannali FC teams into Divisions with Sutherland Shire Football Association, where they can compete at a level where they will be competitive and enjoy.

Grading, unfortunately, must take place in a very short window of time, usually over 1 week.

Parents can help by encouraging players and their friends to register early and on-line (MyFootballClub.com) and by having players attend the grading sessions. If a player does not attend

grading, they will be graded based on their previous year performance (returning players only). If a new player does not attend grading, they will automatically be graded into a team that has a need for players.

Grading dates and times will be given out during the registration process and are listed on the club's web-site and Facebook page.

Grading Decisions: Grading is basically an opinion - some players will 'pick themselves' as they will stand out, and this is usually due to an early physical or personal skill development. It is the policy of CJFC to re-grade players every year, so every junior player has the opportunity to progress. It is important to note that juniors differ in their ability to acquire skills and move through the various stages of development. CJFC encourages parents and players not to focus on which team a player is in, rather on the player's own football development. Each age group will have an Age Coordinator who will assist the Grading Committee in placing players in teams.

The aim of the Club is to grade the players as fairly as possible. Some parents place undue pressure on their children by expecting them to always be in the top team. We can suggest that parents help their children through the grading process by being supportive. Our request is that, in cases where a parent is in disagreement with the end result that they accept the final decision of the Club officials.

Occasionally an age group may have an imbalance of player numbers in which case the club may require players to play above their age group. Players may also request to play above their age group.

If such a request is made, the following is to apply: -

- a) The Grading and Executive Committee may refuse a player from playing up if they are of the opinion it will be detrimental to the player's performance or development, or to the team's performance or development.
- b) Players requesting to play up do so on the clear understanding that the following year they may return to their appropriate age group.

There is no individual grading as such in the U6 age groups - the players are placed in teams according to social groups and then teams will be graded by the club for the association draw. Apart from the obvious advantages of physical activity, it is important that young players enjoy football at this early age, a game, which helps to develop self-confidence, co-operative and concentration skills

CJFC has taken the position that from the U7 age group, the 'top' team(s) will be graded according to player's ability. This is to allow the more advanced players an opportunity to play in an environment that best suits the individual and the team.

CJFC has also taken the position that from U9 up, all 'non competition' teams will be graded to ensure that all players are given the opportunity to strive for the opportunity to play the highest grade, and to ensure that all players are given an equal opportunity to participate equally in game play.

### Concerns about Grading

Any concerns about grading/team allocation will be firstly directed to the Age Group Coordinator. If there are further concerns, the matter will be referred to the Grading Committee who will, if necessary, refer to the Executive Committee, through the Director of Coaching. All unresolved disputes will be reviewed and determined by CJFC Executive Committee.

It is essential that any concerns with the grading of a player are raised as soon as possible with the Age Coordinator.

CJFC takes seriously any concerns with the grading process of all players especially those involved in the MiniRoos format. The club is there for the benefit and enjoyment of all players and strives to make the grading process as fair and equitable for all players.

### Common Concerns Q & A

Q/ Why can't the whole team stick together?

A/ Team sizes change along with field sizes as children get older. In the 6 & 7 age groups teams are made up of 6 players and have 4 on the field at all times. In the 8 & 9 age group teams have 9 players with 7 on the field and at age 10 & 11 there are 11 players per team with 9 on the field. Simple maths and common sense suggests that some teams will be split or pulled apart and it will depend on previous grades and how we best make it fit for the new season ahead.

### How Grading is done

All players will have their name marked off via a roll call. Players that have shown up on the night and are not on our grading sheets (taken from MFC online records of registrants) need to make the Grading Committee aware they are attending that grading session and wish to be considered. Players will be split into playing groups and placed on the field to commence a game to assess their abilities.

Players that wish to be graded as A grade, or considered for the top team in that age group if no A grade available, will be assessed in a separate game, so parents may see more than one game being assessed.

Teams will not be divulged on the night, but will be posted on the website at a date to be advised. Please be patient, our goal is to have all kids graded and notified to the SSFA under very tight deadlines.

We are confident that all selections and grading decisions will be in the best interests of the club and players, any enquiries should be made in writing by email to [coaching@comojannalifc.com.au](mailto:coaching@comojannalifc.com.au) and will be actioned in due course.

At the start of the new season, all players must participate in the grading process. The grading process shall commence as soon as:

The Registration Committee has completed registrations and the likely number of teams in each age group has been determined.

All players must be graded and play in the age group in which they fall.

The only exception is:

If the age group has a surplus number of players beyond the coach's requirements, and the age group above can accommodate those players.

If in the previous season, a player was granted permission to play up an age group, that player may elect to do the same the following season. Exceptions are at the discretion of the Age Coordinator, Grading Coordinator and Executive Committee, in consultation with the players and their parents.

### Grading criteria

Grading is based on a player's performance during a small sided game and any associated drills, and on their performance in the previous season (returning players only and in line with the Player Assessment Sheets completed by the Coach/Manager the previous year)

On grading day, graders assess the player on the following criteria, and assign the player a grading level of A, B or C (A=Advanced, B=Intermediate, C=Beginner).

Graders look for the following attributes:

Ball control: dribbling, trapping, passing, shooting, shielding

Speed, fitness & coordination

Defending and tackling ability

Positional sense

No new player to the club is to be guaranteed a position in any specific team, until the entire grading process has been completed. Any documentation arising out of the grading of teams and players is for the information of CJFC Grading Committee and will not be provided or allowed to be reviewed by any other interested party, including families and the individuals that have been assessed, under any circumstances. They remain the private papers of the CJFC Grading Committee.