

Eligibility to participate determined by age

Background:

In November 2011, Football Queensland (FQ) rescinded the existing "Player Age Policy".

The decision recognised that Competition Rules should reflect the varying circumstances across Queensland and invited Competition Administrators (CA's) to submit competition rules which are most appropriate for their needs. CA's were encouraged to adopt the technical recommendation that players should compete in their correct age group unless exceptional circumstances apply. This creates the best environment for both development of the athlete and their enjoyment of the experience.

Competition Rules submitted to FQ for approval should embrace the following guiding principles;

- Players must participate in their eligible age unless the Club has insufficient players of that age for a team. In that circumstance, younger players may be included to make a team.
- The integrity of the highest level competition in each age should receive priority. Lower division leagues can have composite age teams.
- Open age male competitions should not permit players born 1996 or after to compete (born 1997 or after outside the South East corner).
- Open age female competitions should not permit players born 1997 or after to compete (born 1998 or after outside the South East corner).
- Should a CA have insufficient numbers of players/teams to conduct a competition in a particular age, they should seek relief from FQ with supporting evidence.