



GUNGAHLIN JETS

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

Est 1982



POLICY – SENIOR SELECTION

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| Policy Number: | | Effective Date of this Version: | 1 October 2013 |
| Applies to: | Seniors Policy | Supersedes the Version Dated: | |

Introduction

The selection policy of any club is the most important facet that will either maintain or destroy player morale. All players must always feel that they have the opportunity to progress to the next grade, if their form warrants the progression, as most of the players in our Club play Australian Rules Football to get into the highest possible grade.

The selection policy of a club should not be complicated, but kept simple for all, including our players, to understand. It needs to be fair, consistent, rewarding to those who deserve promotion and helpful to those who are struggling with form. Remember, our club is all about developing the skill level of the players, keeping player morale as high as possible and winning games of Football.

Aim

The Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club has a diverse player base that caters for players from representative level to novices. Players that train regardless of skill level and experience will be given priority to positions within club teams. All players whether they be old or new are welcome and openly encouraged to play for the Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club and it is this unity in diversity that characterizes the club. The aim of this policy is to ensure, and assure players at all levels, that selections are based on objective criteria. The application of this policy will ensure the Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club remains a Club that strives for fairness and equity in all coach and player management. The overriding principle is for the Selection Committee to select the best teams possible for Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club given consideration of the principles of selection equity outlined below.

Purpose

This document is intended to:

- Define the Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club policy applying to team selection and player list management.
- Provide coaches with a guide to inform and support them in them applying and implementing the Club's policy.
- Complement the Club's player registration process and rules.

Application

The policy and guidelines apply to all Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club committee members, coaches, team officials, players and their parents. As the leader of individual teams, coaches are responsible for applying this policy. However the Club recognises that at times situations may arise which require the coaches to exercise their discretion and judgment. The Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club Committees will support, and work with coaches as required, ensuring the spirit and intent of the policy flows through all decisions and actions. The Club will fully support all reasonable and sensible decisions made by coaches.

Clear communication is considered the key to successfully resolving unexpected and sometimes challenging situations. The Club expects all coaches to clearly and promptly communicate their decisions to players and their parents. Players and parents are expected to observe and support the spirit and intent of this policy, and are expected to remember that coaches and Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club Committee members volunteer their time and work effort. Above all this is a community club and all involved are expected to show respect, and work together to build the local football community.

Seniors - Selection Policy

The Seniors committee, coaches and selectors of the Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club believe that to have a strong and viable club there needs to be a commitment to the selection of the best available playing personnel in each of the senior teams. The club, wherever possible, will endeavour to give each registered and financial member a game of football.

The selection committee consists of the Seniors coach, Reserves Coach, Rising Stars Coach and Chairman of Selectors (COS). Appropriately qualified and experienced selectors may be appointed by the COS and may be added in the absence of any of the above.

Chairman of Selectors

The Chairman of Selectors is responsible for the following:

1. Convene and Chair the selection committee each Thursday prior to match day. Exercise a casting vote where applicable.
2. Ensure all coaches provide an objective assessment of the players in their team.
3. Ensure that all affected players are advised, prior to public announcement, if they are promoted or demoted.
4. Be available should a dispute arise regarding selection.
5. At all times provide open and professional communication to the coaches, captains and players.
6. Ensure club policies are followed with regard to selection.
7. Observe training sessions and matches when available.

Communication

Selection decisions will be open and coaches will communicate any changes in selection to the players detailing reasons behind the decision (at the earliest opportunity, usually by the end of training on the Thursday prior to games).

All players are to be consulted when they are moved up and down in grades or not selected in any grade and given reasons for their movement or non-selection. Should any player have any concerns about selection they should raise this with one of the selection panel. The selector will address the matter immediately and/or refer it to a full meeting of the selection committee for resolution with the player.

Process of selection for team

Selection criteria for all Gungahlin Jets players are as follows:

1. All players fit are available for senior selection.
2. All players are to make themselves available to play at the highest level to assist the club (players can, in agreement with the coach/selectors, nominate the highest grade in which they are comfortable to play). The coach/selectors will make the final decision.
3. Teams are selected from the senior team down with a preliminary team selected on Tuesday night and final selection on Thursday nights. The selection of players for each subsequent team to compete in each game will be made by the head coach for that team in conjunction and consultation with the selection committee.

4. An important prerequisite for selection as a senior player is to be a financially paid up member by the deadline set by the club.
5. Attendance at training: any non-attendance at training must have a legitimate excuse and cleared by one of the senior selectors. To be eligible for selection for Senior or Reserve grade, players are required to attend two (2) training sessions per week, unless agreed otherwise by the selectors.
6. Each player's ability is taken into consideration given the specific needs and structure of the team being selected.
7. Match performances are perceived as a critical aspect of team selection however players' performance on the training track is also taken into account.
8. The selection committee will take in consideration any breaches of the code of behaviour that comes to their attention. The selection committee is empowered to demote or suspend any players found in breach of that code of behaviour. Players who breach the code of conduct will not be selected and may be suspended.
9. The code of conduct will be the code of conduct outlined on the GUNGAHLIN JETS AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB website under which our players participate.
10. Level of fitness—size, speed, strength, power and capacity to fill a position in a grade.

The selectors will apply their experience and discretion to weigh each of the above factors in selecting players.

Rising Star's

Rising Star's players whose performance warrant promotion and show a willingness to participate will be considered for selection in the senior teams. If a younger aged player is developed enough for the rigours of senior football and it is in the interest of the player to play other grades, a discussion of selection must occur between the effected coaches. Any Rising Star's player who is promoted to the seniors will be given a minimum of 2 matches to show his ability. Any Rising Star's player who is not selected in the seniors will automatically return to the Rising Star's. Any Rising Star's player who misses selection of the Rising Star's side will be given due consideration to play Reserves football.

Emergencies

A player at our Club fulfils their obligation to their team by making themselves available as an emergency for a match. If a player is classed as the next best player in a particular team, the obligation is his/hers to stand by as an emergency and take the field if necessary. A player who does not turn up to a game when selected as an emergency and has no reason for their action will automatically be unavailable for selection in the next game.

New players

Under normal circumstances, players who arrive new to the Club during the season should have to display competence in a lower grade before winning promotion to Senior grade. If a player arrives during pre-season, they will be graded as per pre-season game form. If a proven, high-quality player arrives after pre-season, they should expect to start in Reserve grade, however this decision will be made by the selection committee.

Training Sessions

There are two (2) main training sessions per week, currently Tuesday and Thursday night for the Senior, reserves and Rising Star's teams and Monday and Wednesday night for the Women. Occasionally, particularly leading up to finals, extra training sessions may be scheduled at the discretion of the coaches. Prior notice will be given to the players if extra sessions are planned.

Training Attendance Record

The selection committee will keep a record of all training attendances. If a player cannot attend training the player is required to call/SMS their respective coach and provide a reason for non-attendance i.e. Injury, illness or work commitments etc. Apologies via team mates will not be accepted. The Training Attendance record is an important

part of the selection process with priority given to players that train over those who don't. There will be a chart in the change rooms that will show every players training attendance throughout the season, this will be updated after each training session.

Injured Players

Players injured during games or training will only be eligible for selection once they have been cleared to play by their GP and/or passed fit by the coaches. Injured players are expected to attend the club on training nights to receive treatment, as necessary or to participate in alternative training activities as appropriate. Injured players are also expected to attend games to assist coaches in any capacity as appropriate.

State representatives

Players who have been absent due to representative commitments will be eligible for automatic selection wherever the Selection Committee deem fit.

Suspended players

Players found guilty of an offence by the AFL Canberra Tribunal will not necessarily follow the above process once their suspension has been served. The Selection Committee can impose its own further penalties depending on the seriousness of the original offence. Suspended players are expected to attend training sessions and games to assist the team in any capacity as appropriate.

Overriding factors

The selection committee may, in its absolute discretion, add players to teams at any stage subject to those players satisfying the relevant selection policy.

Appeals

Any appeal to selection in a particular team is to be addressed to the respective coach in the first instance. If the player is still not satisfied with their non-selection, they are to discuss the matter with the Chairman of Selectors. The Chairman of Selectors' decision will be final.

Game day apparel

Players are to wear at a minimum the Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club official club attire with black dress pants to fixtures. Gungahlin Jets Australian Football Club track suit tops or polar fleece jackets are also encouraged as the days get shorter and cooler. All coaches are responsible for ensuring players uphold the wearing of game day apparel.