

TUGGERANONG UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

SENIORS

PO Box 1271

Tuggeranong DC, ACT 2900

menscommittee@tufc.com.au



Premier League Guidelines

Introduction

These Guidelines are designed to aid TUFC Seniors officials to maintain a cohesive approach to the Club's Premier League program. Whilst week to week issues are to be managed by the coaching staff, these guidelines should serve as a broad outline of the Club's aims and values. Any deviation from these guidelines must be in consultation with the Management Committee. These guidelines may be changed by future Management Committees at their discretion.

Premier League Program

The Club's Premier League program consists of the four grades competing in the ACT Premier League. They are Premier League (or PL Firsts), Premier Pathways League (PPL), Premier League Under 18s (PL18s) and Premier League Under 16s (PL16s). Further teams within the club may be added to the program from year to year, and this will be made clear at the beginning of the season.

Program Goals

The aims of the Premier League Program are:

- To maintain a strong TUFC presence in the ACT Premier League.
- To develop talented players into high performance footballers.
- To provide a pathway between Junior and Professional football for elite players.
- To contribute to the development and profile of football in the region.

Player Commitment

Players committing to the Premier League Program should consider the following:

- When you join the Premier League Program, you are joining the TUFC PL Squad, rather than a specific team. The TUFC coaching staff will decide who plays in which team on an ongoing basis.
- You will be expected to attend regular training sessions to the satisfaction of your coaches.
- You will be expected to make yourself available to whichever teams you are selected to play in, which may include being a substitute for a higher grade.
- Starting line-ups, substitutions, promotion and demotions are selected on merit, rather than purely participation.
- Whilst all efforts will be made to accommodate dropped players getting playing time in another team, it's possible that some players will not get a run some weeks.

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- PL players are expected to contribute to the club as requested, which may include attendance at after match functions, attending Junior development events and sponsorship related events.

Player Remuneration

The Management Committee will decide at the beginning of each season whether PL players will be remunerated in any way, and what form such remuneration will take. The terms of any payments or reimbursements must be clearly explained to players, including exact expectations of them, particularly any off field contributions.

Such payments are on the assumption that the player completes the season with TUFC Seniors PL Program. If the player chooses, during the season, to join another Capital Football region club, or decides to leave the PL Program for the Divisional teams, they forfeit any remunerations.

Pre Season Selection

The PL Coaches and the Management Committee will agree on a pre season schedule that sets clear deadlines for selecting squads. This will allow players not selected to find spots elsewhere, particularly those still eligible for junior age groups. These deadlines should allow cut players to attend junior registration dates should they wish.

Players cut from the PL Squad must be informed clearly, and extra effort must be made to ensure Under 18s' parents know that they need to find other playing options for their children.

Movement During the Season

TUFC's PL Coaches decide on team selections from week to week. They should take into account the aims of the PL Program, with the main contributing factors being performance and development. Coaches will maintain strong communication between themselves to ensure player movements are coordinated and deliberate.

Wherever possible, team line-ups should be finalised during the week to allow players to make logistical arrangements to be available for the correct time slot.

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Movement Between Seniors and Juniors

Players registered for TUFC Seniors who are eligible to play junior age groups are permitted to play for TUFC Juniors. They are only allowed to play in the highest junior division TUFC Juniors fields in that age group. PL16s and PL18s coaches should be familiar with their TUFC Junior counterparts, to allow surplus players to play in the junior teams, and to allow junior players to supplement PL teams when required.

The appropriate TUFC Junior coach should be kept informed of any of his/her players being offered PL spots.

Movement Between PL and Divisional Grades

When a player is dropped from the PL teams, whether permanently or week to week, the highest divisional team should make all effort to accommodate that player. See *TUFC Divisional Team Guidelines* for more information.

When the PL squad requires players from TUFC divisional teams, the divisional team manager/coach should be informed of any request. That manager must not unreasonably discourage promotion, but negotiation based on numbers is acceptable. Divisional player have not made the same commitments as PL players, and therefore their inclusion in the PL squad, either permanently or week to week, remains voluntary. The final decision is with the player themselves.