* <insert club/organisation name here>

**team selection policy - juniors**

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| Approved by | <add approver name(s) and date> |
| Next review | <add date for next review> |

# Our commitment

We believe that junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and focus on player development rather than winning. Our club acknowledges that positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of this sport.

# What we will do

In order to achieve our commitment, we undertake to:

1. Hold compulsory pre-session information sessions with coaches, parents, and carers to inform and engage them that junior sport is about inclusive participation, not winning and losing.
2. Protect children playing in sport from all forms of misconduct (including but not limited) to physical and sexual misconduct or abuse and neglect, psychological abuse, bullying, harassment, hazing, exploitation, and victimisation.
3. Modify rules and equipment where necessary to include children of all abilities to encourage their participation (provided our sport can be safely modified and still comply with the rules of the sport).
4. Try to match junior players with others of similar ability (e.g. if there are enough players, have two teams in an age division).
5. Provide junior players with a broad range of experiences (e.g. participating in different positions to provide children with the best opportunity to discover and develop their skills).
6. Provide equal playing time for all juniors, regardless of their ability.
7. Consider mixed team opportunities for boys, girls and gender diverse children.
8. Ensure that all team members can experience playing in finals.
9. A child or children of a coach may play in that coach’s team.
10. Wherever possible, try and ensure each player can play with a core group of friends.

# What we ask of you

## Coaches

1. Be familiar with what is required to ensure that children participating in a sporting activity have a safe, enjoyable, and inclusive experience.
2. Focus on promoting enjoyment and inclusive participation, rather than focusing on winning and losing.
3. Ensure all team members have the chance to play, rotate through positions and receive equal playing time.
4. If you coach your own children, treat them like all other team members (e.g. rotations, playing time or participation).

## Parents/guardians/carers

* 1. Assist the coach where possible at training and games.
  2. Be a positive role model for all the children participating by being respectful of the coaches, other parents, carers or players in opposing teams, and officials.
  3. Offer words of encouragement that reward your child’s efforts, rather than the outcome of the game, race or event.
  4. Encourage other players, including the opposition, to foster a safe, enjoyable environment for every child.
  5. Respect the selection and coaching decisions of the coach.

## Officials

1. Aim to facilitate a positive experience.
2. Treat each game, race or event as a learning opportunity for children and young people.
3. Take the time to explain rules to participants.
4. Focus on rewarding and encouraging participants.

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| I, <INSERT YOUR NAME> have read and understood the policy and will abide by it as a member of <INSERT YOUR ORGANISATION’S NAME>. |
| Signature: |
| Date: |
| If under 18 years of age, parent/guardian: |
| Signature: |
| Date: |