



Team Selection and Grading Policy and Process

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Scorpions Basketball Club: Team Selection and Grading Policy and Process

Purpose of the Policy

The Scorpions Basketball Club aims to provide a rewarding and inclusive basketball experience for all players and their families. This policy seeks to balance the development of high-performance teams for skilled players with the opportunity for others to enjoy playing with friends in development teams.

The club will:

- Place players in Under 10s and below in friendship based teams
- For players in Under 12s and Under 14s:
- Grade *performance teams* (Divisions 1-3) to support skilled players who aim to compete at the highest level.
 - Allow *development teams* (Divisions 4 and below) to focus on social and recreational basketball, prioritising friendships and enjoyment.
 - Ensure team structures promote individual development, competitiveness, and the overall strength of the club.

Policy Guidelines

Team Categories

1. Performance Teams:

- For players wishing to compete in higher divisions (Divisions 1/2/3).
- Selection is based on ability, commitment, and performance at trials.
- Focus on creating balanced and competitive teams.
- Applies to Under 12s and Under 14s.

2. Development Teams:

- For players who prioritise playing with friends or in a less competitive environment.
- Selection allows for friend requests and school groupings.
- No trials required unless players wish to be considered for a performance team.

Registration Options

At registration, parents will indicate their child's preference by selecting one of the following:

1. Grading for Performance Teams:

- Players will attend trials to compete for a place in a performance team
- Placement based on merit and ability as well as team balance across the divisions.
- Selecting the preference of performance team at registration allows for participation in the grading process and consideration for a performance team, but does not guarantee that a child will be placed in one of these higher teams.
- If a player is unable to attend due to sickness/holiday, feedback on skill level will be sought from previous coaches or previous club.

2. Development Team Placement:

- Players will be placed with at least one nominated friend where possible.
- Placement will prioritise friendships and school groups over skill.

Grading and Selection Process

1.A Performance Team Trials (Under 12s and Under 14s):

- Trials conducted 4–6 weeks before the end of the season.
- Organised and evaluated by the Coaching Coordinator, Age Group Coordinator and selected coaches.
- All current and new players aiming for performance teams must attend trials.
- Players not selected for performance teams will be placed in the next suitable development team. We will ask players who trial for performance teams to provide friend requests for this possibility.
- If a player is unable to attend due to sickness/holiday, feedback on skill level will be sought from previous coaches or previous club.

1.B What to expect at grading?

- Participants will be asked to demonstrate skills including: footwork, dribbling, shooting, passing, layups and rebounding. They will also participate in short games of 5 on 5

2. Development Teams:

- Players are grouped based on friend requests, school groupings, and age
- Teams aim for balanced competitiveness without formal grading.

Team Formation Guidelines

- Teams will consist of 6–8 players
- Graded teams will aim to balance skills across positions, considering physical attributes and playing roles.
- Friend requests (one reciprocal) will be accommodated for development teams wherever possible.

Grading Recommendations

- Performance teams will initially be recommended for Division 1 or 2 unless deemed uncompetitive by the coaching staff.
- Development teams will be placed in divisions based on historical performance and team composition.

Coach Allocation

- Coaches will be appointed annually, prioritising:
 1. Parent coaches willing to coach their child's team.

2. Under-age coaches with prior experience or formal coaching training.
 3. External coaches only when no suitable internal candidates are available.
- Coaching appointments are subject to committee approval.

Regrading and Mid-Season Adjustments

- Teams may be regraded by the competition organiser after Rounds 3 and 5 based on performance.
- Teams with average game margins exceeding ± 25 points will be considered for regrading.

Handling Complaints

- Concerns about team composition, grading, or other issues must be submitted to the Secretary via the Team Manager.
- The committee will address complaints only when submitted in writing.
- We ask parents to take into consideration the extensive time and effort of the volunteer committee that goes into the process of grading and team allocation when making complaints. Please also keep in mind that many factors are taken into consideration when allocating teams. These factors may not be immediately obvious to those outside of the Coaching teams.

Policy Flexibility

The committee reserves the right to adapt or override these guidelines in the club's best interest.