



EAST GOSFORD FOOTBALL CLUB

GRADING POLICY 2026

Junior & Senior Divisions

Prepared by: East Gosford Football Club

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this grading policy is to ensure players at East Gosford Football Club (EGFC) are placed into teams that best reflect their skill level, developmental needs, and enjoyment of football.

This policy supports:

- Player development
 - Fair and balanced team formation
 - Transparent and consistent grading procedures
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2. JUNIOR GRADING POLICY (Ages 8–16)

2.1 Overview

Junior grading applies to players aged **Under 8 to Under 16**.

The goal is to provide all children with a positive environment where they can develop appropriately based on their ability level.

2.2 Grading Process

- Where possible, each age group requiring grading will complete a **minimum of one (1) official grading day**, contingent on ground availability and weather conditions.
 - All sessions will be organised by the **Grading Committee**, and scheduled times will be communicated ahead of time.
 - Players are required to grade in their **designated age group**, as determined by their birth year, unless express permission is granted by the Executive or the Grading Committee.
 - Assessments **may include** technical and defensive skills, tactical exercises, and full-sided match play.
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2.3 Assessment Criteria

Technical Skills

- Ball control, first touch, and running with the ball
- Passing accuracy and timing
- Ball retention and movement

Tactical Awareness

- Ability to make strategic plays
- Movement to create or find space
- Decision-making under pressure
- Game intelligence and positioning

Defensive Skills

- Defensive positioning
- Tackling technique
- Tracking runs and intercepting passes
- Maintaining defensive structure

Physical & Attitudinal Factors

- Effort, resilience, and teamwork
 - Coachability and behaviour
 - Sportsmanship
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2.4 Grading Outcomes

- Players are placed in teams that match their **current level of development**.
 - Players who do not make higher-graded teams will be placed in **teams appropriate to their skill level**, ensuring enjoyment and growth.
 - **Placement within graded squads is determined by grading assessments, historical evaluations, and grading committee review.**
 - **Non-graded team placements** are primarily based on social and developmental considerations.
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2.5 Communication of Results

- Final team lists are published after the grading committee completes its review.
 - Families are notified via club email and/or official communication channels.
 - All placement decisions are final unless exceptional circumstances arise.
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3. SENIOR GRADING POLICY

3.1 Overview

Senior grading ensures players are placed in teams that match their skill level, fitness, experience, and competitive objectives.

3.2 Assessment Structure

Senior grading may include:

- Pre-season training assessments
 - Open trial sessions
 - Small-sided and full-field matches
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3.3 Assessment Criteria

Technical

- Ball control under pressure
- Passing accuracy and consistency
- Execution of football skills relevant to position

Tactical

- Ability to create/support strategic plays
- Spatial awareness and intelligent movement
- Tactical discipline within team structure

Defensive

- 1v1 defending effectiveness
 - Tracking, pressing, and recovery
 - Maintaining defensive shape and communication
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3.4 Senior Grading Outcomes

- Players are placed in squads reflecting their **current performance**.
 - Those who do not meet higher-level criteria are guided into suitable squads.
 - Selections are reviewed jointly by senior coaching staff and the grading committee.
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4. GRADING DAYS – GENERAL INFORMATION

- Dates, times, and venues are published prior to the season.
 - For those wishing to play at the highest level their abilities permit, attendance is highly recommended for accurate team placement.
 - Players are encouraged to arrive early and prepared (boot's, shin pads, water, etc.).
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5. CONTACT DETAILS

For further information regarding junior or senior grading, please contact:

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