

Frequently Asked Questions Trials Season 2023



Wanneroo City Soccer Club – Season 2023

What is grading?

- The purpose of grading is to accommodate players into teams with the appropriate capabilities for a particular division, so that they will be playing with and against players of similar ability.

FootballWest competition structure:

- Has adopted the small sided games format:
 - The concept aims to try and give younger players more touches of the ball and thereby increase both their enjoyment of the game and their skill development.
- With each year the field size and number of team members gradually increases until they are playing on a full field with 11 players at U13.

Who is graded?

- The club will grade individual players from mixed U10s and up unless there is only 1 team in that age group.
- U6 & U7 are ungraded
- U8 & U9 the teams are loosely graded into strong, middle and weak.
- U10, U11 & U12 the individual players are graded:
 - The resulting teams are then graded into:
 - Blue (strongest 25%)
 - Green (middle 25%)
 - Yellow (50% - often referred to as social divisions)
 - These are transitional years where there are no points, tables or prizes.
- U13 and up individual players are graded:
 - The team is assigned a division and match results are recorded.

Who gains from grading?

- Has your team ever been completely outclassed? Or maybe your team has won games so easily the kids hardly got going? This sometimes happens and is not an ideal situation.
- Wanneroo believe that for juniors it's best to give all the kids a chance to find their feet for the first few seasons before progressing to a more competitive level.

CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

*The Club requires Players and Parents to comply with the relevant Codes of Behaviour published on the **Senior & Junior** Websites.*

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Trials Season 2023



- Everyone benefits from grading:
 - Good players who found it all a bit too easy last season
 - Good players who were usually on the losing side because the rest of their team struggled
 - Social players who never saw the ball because there were a couple of stars in their team
 - Social players who never saw much of the ball because there always seemed to be a couple of stars in the opposing team
 - Players and spectators who will benefit from more exciting matches
 - The opposition's players for all the same reasons.

How do we grade?

- Wanneroo grading committee is a group of trained, experienced coaching volunteers led by our coaching coordinator.
- Players are put through a varied set of drills and some small-sided practice matches in order to evaluate a range of skills, physical attributes, footballing awareness etc.
 - We also use input from the previous year's coach to give some initial direction.
- At U10 when individual grading is first undertaken we encourage younger players who have been playing up in the age group above for many seasons to remain at U9 for another season and grade in their own age group.
 - The exception to this is particularly skilled younger players.
 - If a younger player grades in the top 4 in the age group above, then they are permitted to continue to play up.
- Players are then recommended into particular teams.
- Grading decisions will be a joint decision made by 3 people and none of them will have a child in that age group:
 - If you are unable to attend grading you will be graded into a team at the discretion of the grading committee.
 - The decision of the grading committee is final.

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When are the trials?

- Grading usually occurs in November at the clubs grounds.
- Make sure that you are registered early so you are advised of any grading requirements or changes.
- The club coach coordinator will inform your coach of specific dates and times.

Feel free to come along and observe:

Week 1:

Monday 14 th November	Tuesday 15 th November	Wednesday 16 th November	Thursday 17 th November
11s 5pm – 6pm Eleven DOB 2012	12s 5pm – 6pm Twelve DOB 2011	13s 5:30pm – 6:30pm Thirteen DOB 2010	14s 5:30pm – 6:30pm Fourteen DOB 2009
15s 6:30pm – 7:30pm Fifteen DOB 2008	16s 6:30pm – 7:30pm Sixteen DOB 2007		

Week 2:

Monday 21 st November	Tuesday 22 nd November	Wednesday 23 rd November	Thursday 24 th November
11s 5pm – 6pm Eleven DOB 2012	12s 5pm – 6pm Twelve DOB 2011	13s 5:30pm – 6:30pm Thirteen DOB 2010	14s 5:30pm – 6:30pm Fourteen DOB 2009
15s 6:30pm – 7:30pm Fifteen DOB 2008	16s 6:30pm – 7:30pm Sixteen DOB 2007		

Any further trial dates will be announced at the end of each session

Player Equipment

Footwear: Football boots with plastic moulded studs
Shin-Guards: Shin-guards to be worn at all times.

Drink Bottle: Players must have a water bottle for use during training & games as players can dehydrate very quickly, even in cooler weather.
Please clearly mark bottles.

Sun Cream: Sun cream if required

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Transition to a new team

- After some years together it can be difficult moving to a new team. Sometimes in life you have to grit your teeth and try and get on with a new bunch of people. The kids will be fine - they do it all the time.
- If you are particularly keen for a group of kids to be kept together who you feel are much the same standard:
 - You can make a request BEFORE grading.
 - We can't promise that they will be kept together but it can be part of our deliberations.
- Sometimes parents are disappointed that their child wasn't graded higher. Possibly we got it wrong, but they could be slightly biased, so there probably wasn't that much in it.
- A child that scrapes into a higher grade is likely to have more time off the field, see less of the ball and is less likely to be in their preferred position than a child who is better than most of their team-mates.
- Also, you know your child is a decent player, but have you looked at ALL the other players in the age group like we will do?
- It's a difficult and thankless task.

We are all volunteers aiming to be fair and do what is right for the Club as a whole. Please bear this in mind.

If you require more details contact: -

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President - Wanneroo City Junior Soccer Club

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