

## **North Hobart Junior Football Club Inc – Policy Document N° 7**

### **TEAM NUMBERS POLICY (DRAFT)**

The Club would like to provide the opportunity for as many young people as possible to play football.

However, there is a need to balance this against the rights and expectations of those associated with players for whom a registration fee has been paid to the Club.

In short, the Club may fail to meet some expectations if a team takes the field with a bench of 10 players week after week.

Where there are too many players for a single team the Club will make every endeavour to attract additional players to field a second team.

For junior teams, where there are thirty or less players, the intention is to field a single side and rotate players regardless of ability.

Where there are over 30 players, a second team is to be registered and every attempt made to attract additional players.

For youth teams, coaching staff must register the first 24 players but thereafter may accept names on a standby list.

The intention would be to register a second team, but if this is not possible, standby players would be encouraged to register with another Club.

Whilst numbers are being finalised, standby players to be entitled to attend training without paying a registration fee to the Club.

**proposed 28/10/2003**

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### Team Numbers – A Discussion Paper

Over the past two years some NHJFC coaches have come under criticism from a small section of the parent body for not giving their son enough game time.

At the junior level ( Auskick – Under 12 ) this has often been because there are a large number of players in the team. The coach has the task of rotating and resting players to give everyone a fair go.

At youth level ( Under 13 – 17 ) the problem can also arise because a coach wants the best team on the ground to win the four premierships points.

Whilst there is likely to be minimal dispute at junior level to a club policy of player rotation and equal match time, there may still be dissatisfaction if team numbers are so large that players spend a significant amount of time on the bench.

It may be time to tighten up a little here to take the pressure off the individual coach and limit situations where large numbers restrict game time. ( After all, many parents take the view that a \$95 registration fee entitles them to almost a whole game )

### Junior Teams

Recommended policy wording could be ; -

- Club's stated policy is to encourage all boys and girls to play football and to strive to register all players at the appropriate age level.
- Where team numbers are large it will seek to establish a second team for the same age group. ( Teams to be equally weighted by ability )
- Coaches can register up to and including 26 players before they must approach the Club Committee.
- Committee will review the prospect of more registrations being forthcoming for the establishment of a second side.
- It should also investigate the possibility of eligible players moving to another age group, however, this can only be by agreement and existing players have an entitlement to maintain their position. ( rationale here is that club should honour any out of age request it has already approved. )
- Committee may delay a decision for no more than 10 days or the Committee meeting following receipt of advice from the coach – whichever comes sooner.
- If there is no prospect of having a second team, the relevant Team Manager will refer parents seeking registration to the corresponding team at the Hobart Football Club. These parents must be provided with the name and contact details of the relevant HFC coach. ( HFC to have an identical arrangement referring surplus players to NHJFC governed by an MOU signed by both clubs.
- If the corresponding HFC team is 'full', Committee may consider matter further and could permit a maximum of two further players following consultation with the parent group associated with that team and having regard for the circumstances of other teams in the roster. ( if other clubs only have teams of 15, it means a large number of players will be disadvantaged )
- Both clubs to meet to review the MOU annually.

### Youth Teams