

## **Finals Selection Policy**

It is generally recognised that finals football is different from the home and away games. The Finals Selection Policy is based on the following principles.

- An opportunity for as many players as is possible to experience finals football.
- An understanding that player selection and playing time for individual players gives the team the best possible opportunity to be successful.
- An understanding that the policy will provide coaches in the youth age groups a greater scope for varying playing time for individual players than in the junior age groups.

The main points of the policy are:

1. In the event of the team playing in one final, the maximum number of players will be selected. This may not reflect in all players selected actually playing on game day.
2. There will be no minimum playing time required during finals but when appropriate as many selected players should be given time on the ground during a final.
3. Selection for finals should be handled with integrity and humility. All players not selected should be communicated at the earliest time with clear concise reasons for their omissions.
4. During finals when players are brought up from a lower grade or brought down from a higher grade they must begin the match on the interchange as starting preference must given to those playing in the correct age group.

### **Selection**

There should be considerations that can affect the above standards being applied;

- player injuries or illness, (duty of care)
- late attendance or early departure on game day,
- timely attendance at training sessions, following coaches instructions, participation level
- player conduct ( game day & training)

### **Summary**

Finals are both a very exciting time but can also be a disappointing time for some players who may not be selected. As coaches if handled correctly the process can often be positive for all involved. If handled incorrectly it can affect player retention and club membership. Coaches should ask for assistance from the club if finding this process difficult at anytime.