

1. DOCUMENT OBJECTIVE

- 1.2 The main objective of this document is to formulate the processes by which Milton Ulladulla Football Club (hereby referred to as MUFC) will conduct its grading sessions on a yearly basis. This document should be accessible to members of MUFC and the general football community.

2. JUNIOR GRADING POLICY

2.2. In general terms, senior teams are not put through a grading policy, as the coaches will oversee general placement of senior's teams in relation to previous year's performance, and overall request from players in each team. The committee will be available to assist coaches if requested to do so.

2.3. Overall, MUFC has some clear objectives in relation to the grading of our junior teams, which are as follows:

For players:

Provide a clear, well-defined process to ensure that all players are to be placed in a team that will:

- Best represent their individual level of skill and ability,
- Ensure teams formed are comprised of similarly skilled players,
- Maximise opportunities to develop and improve their skills
- Maximise their enjoyment and love of the game, and
- To provide clear and well managed pathways through age groups and divisions.

For Club:

- Ensure that players are placed in teams in a fair and equitable manner by independent persons,
- Enable the club to properly assess and nominate team placing's for the upcoming season,
- Ensure that stakeholders (Players/Parents) concerns are taken into consideration and addressed

3. GRADING COMMITTEE

- 3.1. The Grading Committee is comprised of a Grading Coordinator (to be decided), the Club Captain of MUFC, plus up to an additional 2 senior members of the Club (who are available on the day), who preferably have had at least 12 months experience on the MUFC Committee or are/have been experienced coaches plus the (age being graded) coaches
- 3.2. The Grading Coordinator will act as overall coordinator and convenor of all aspects of the Grading process and is to provide suggested team breakdowns to the MUFC Management Committee ideally prior to Team Nominations closing date.
- 3.3. When grading age groups from Under 10's and above, coaches from the previous season will be invited to assist in an advisory capacity only at the grading session, whether they intend coaching in that age group again or not. These coaches will have a good knowledge of the players and can assist the Grading committee, who may have concerns with regards to player's skills or abilities.
- 3.4. The Grading Committee will make all final recommendations on squad selections to the MUFC Committee for approval. These recommendations are formed after analysing all recorded information

and any documentation from the grading process and what may have been provided at the completion of the previous season by coaches/managers, via Player Evaluation Sheets (Refer Appendix).

Age groups

- Under 8's - There is no individual player grading, but a team ranking assessment.
- Under 8's coaches could be asked to complete player evaluation sheet at the end of the season to help with the following seasons grading
- Under 9 – 15 - Player grading is mandatory, although dependant on player numbers in each age group.

3.5. In relation to player numbers for each side, it will be based on the total numbers registered in each age group in any given year.

3.6. MUFC preferred squad numbers for all teams is dependant on how many players registered in each age group and by maximum numbers allowed by SDFA

4. GRADING DATES AND TIMES

4.1. The initial grading sessions will be conducted pre-season over max 2 sessions at a time specified by the grading committee. Notification for these dates will be published on MUFC website and on social media platforms at least 2 weeks, whenever possible, prior to the session

4.2. During the initial grading sessions, each age group will roughly have a 60-minute session.

4.3. Players are required to attend the nominated venue, at least 15 minutes before the allotted time to allow for grading registration, necessary administration

4.4 Players will be allocated to a team E.g., if there are two comps in an age group stronger players will be allocated to A grade and weaker to B grade. If there is only one comp put forward by SDFA the grading committee will try whenever possible to grade the teams equally. Stake holders need to understand that the grading committee/process is not perfect, and some equally graded teams may fair better than others.

5. LATE REGISTRATIONS

5.1. Late registrations will only be accepted if player vacancies still exist in applicable age groups.

5.2. Non-registered players will not be allowed to participate in grading.

5.3. Players can register on the day of grading and must pay in full before they can participate in the grading process

5.4. Players registered after grading has been completed are unlikely to be considered for the highest graded team, although where there are exceptional circumstances, a player may trial (at the discretion of the Grading Committee) to earn a place in this team. This will only occur if there are spaces available in that team.

6. GRADING ATTENDANCE

6.1. Attendance at grading is not compulsory for all registered players but failure to attend, with no notification of absence, may result in the player missing out on being graded into a higher team or their previous team.

6.2. Additional grading sessions (where necessary) will be added when grading the highest graded team in each age group.

7. SPECIAL REQUESTS

7.1. Special requests can be made to the grading committee at the initial grading session or by emailing the club secretary on admin@mufc.net.au

7.2. The initial grading session is the final opportunity for players/parents to make special requests.

7.3. Where a request to play with a friend/s has been made, the players (if all agree) will be placed in the team that matches the player with the least level of assessed ability, so that it does not disadvantage another player who perhaps deserves to play in a higher team based on their ability.

7.4. Where a request to play in the same team as last year has been made, this will only be automatically considered if they played in the lowest team of their age group. If for example, an age group had two teams last year and a player that was in the top team, cannot request to stay in the top team. That player must go through the grading process, as some players that were in the second team may have improved significantly enough to go up to the top team.

8. GRADING CRITERIA

8.1. When assessing players, the Grading Committee will be primarily assessing the following criteria:

1. Touch (control/dribbling)
2. Passing
3. Striking (shooting)
4. Tackling
5. Fitness (speed/endurance)

8.2 When assessing older players primarily 14's/15's other criteria may be added as decided by the grading committee E.g.

- Ability one v one
- Teamwork
- Versatility
- Strength
- Heading

8.3 the above criteria will be assessed using short sided and possession games plus a variety of specific drills formulated by the grading committee and our senior coaches

9. DISPUTES

9.1. All grading assessment sheets and player evaluations remain property of MUFC and are confidential

9.2. If a parent/guardian is not happy with the graded level of their child, and/or not happy with the grading process, they must send their grievance in writing to the Grading Coordinator. The Grading Coordinator will consult with the Grading Committee to determine if the grading stands, or if an amendment to the grading may be necessary.

9.3. If a parent/guardian is still unsatisfied with their child's graded level following the review of the Grading Committee, they may apply for their grievance to be heard by the MUFC complaints Committee for a resolution using the complaints portal on the website. The decision of the MUFC complaints committee will be deemed final.

9.4. If a parent/guardian requests a change in team for their child after team allocations are completed, they must notify the team coach/manager ASAP. Please note that players can only be moved down a grade and will only be approved if a player from the lower grade is willing to move up and team nominations have not been forwarded to SDFA

APPENDIX

Player evaluation form (proposed)

PLAYERS	PP	SP	T	P	S	Ta	F	tot	COMMENTS

Key.

PP = primary position. (Gk, Def, Mid, Fwd)

SP = secondary position (Gk, Def, Mid, Fwd)

T = touch (1-poor, 2-below average, 3-average, 4-good, 5-excellent)

P = passing (1-poor, 2-below average, 3-average, 4-good, 5-excellent)

S = striking (1-poor, 2-below average, 3-average, 4-good, 5-excellent)

Ta = tackling (1-poor, 2-below average, 3-average, 4-good, 5-excellent)

F = fitness (1-poor, 2-below average, 3-average, 4-good, 5-excellent)