



Policy	<b>Player Regrade Policy</b>
Approval Date:	14 August 2024
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## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This policy outlines the requirements and procedure for regrading a player into a higher or lower age group or higher or lower graded team within an age group.

## **2. Player Regrade Policy**

- 2.1. Any player, or their parent/guardian or team coach on a players behalf, may request to be regraded from one age group to another or from one graded team to another to ensure the player is allocated to the team which best reflects the players skill and ability level.
- 2.2. Player regrades are conducted according to the Procedure outlined below and in line with relevant Highlands Soccer Association (HSA) Rules and Policies.

## **3. Player Regrade Procedure**

### **3.1. Initiating a regrade request:**

- 3.1.1. Any player (or parent/carer) who feels they should be considered for regrading may make a request to their current Team Coach or Manager in writing (via email or WhatsApp) or in-person discussion.
- 3.1.2. Any Team Coach who feels one of their team players should be considered for regrading may make a request to the Football Director. The Team Coach should first inform and discuss this with the relevant player and their (Parent/Guardian if under 18 years of age).
- 3.1.3. This request should include reasons why they believe a regrade is necessary, addressing factors outlined in *section 3.3* below.



### **3.2. Review by Coach or Manager:**

- 3.2.1. The Team Coach or Manager reviews the request considering the merits of the request including the impacts, risks and benefits for the player and the respective teams.
- 3.2.2. If the team coach or manager believes the request has merit, they escalate it to the Football Director in writing (via email or WhatsApp) for assessment.

### **3.3. Assessment by Football Director:**

- 3.3.1. The Football Director is responsible for overseeing the regrading process and ensuring consistency across all teams within the club.
- 3.3.2. The Football Director will evaluate the request along with any relevant performance data, observations from training sessions/games, and feedback from other coaches if applicable.
- 3.3.3. The assessment will consider a range of factors including but not limited to:
  - age
  - gender
  - fitness
  - attitude
  - commitment levels
  - current skill level and experience
  - skill level and experience required for the age group/team they are applying for

### **3.4. Decision by Football Director:**

- 3.4.1. The Football Director, upon completing their evaluation, will make one of the following decisions:
  - a) Accept the regrade request
  - b) Deny the regrade request
- 3.4.2. The Football Director communicates the decision to the player via the Team Coach or Manager who initially received the request.
  - a) If the regrade is denied, the player is informed in writing and reasons provided.



- b) If the regrade is accepted, the player is informed in writing and;
  - i) In the case of a regrade within the same age group the player is advised of their new team and coach.
  - ii) In the case of an age group regrade, the necessary applications are initiated with the HSA.

3.4.3. The decision of the Football Director is final.

### **3.5. Applying to HSA**

3.5.1. In the case of an age group regrade, upon acceptance, the Football Director will complete the necessary application forms with the HSA located at <https://hsa.org.au/forms/>.

3.5.2. Additional information may be requested from the Player, their Coach and/or Parent/Carer to support the application.

### **3.6. HSA Decision**

3.6.1. HSA will assess the application and make the final determination if the request is accepted or denied.

3.6.2. The Football Director communicates the HSA decision to the player via the Team Coach or Manager who initially received the request.

3.6.3. All communication with HSA will be via the Football Director.

### **3.7. Updating Dribl**

3.7.1. The Football Director will advise the Registrar of necessary changes who will action them in Dribl before the next scheduled match.

## **4. Key Contacts**

Football Director: [Football@bundanoonrebels.au](mailto:Football@bundanoonrebels.au)

President: [President@bundanoonrebels.au](mailto:President@bundanoonrebels.au)

Registra: [Membership@bundanoonrebels.au](mailto:Membership@bundanoonrebels.au)