



# New Players to the Club Policy - Juniors

Due to year on year increasing registrations at MJ AFC, in consultation with AFLQ and as required by limited infrastructure, green space and to ensure optimisation of player satisfaction in future seasons, MJ AFC will set limits for numbers of teams per age group and numbers of players per team. This will result in total player per age group limits being implemented from season 2021.

To manage this situation MJ AFC will implement an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process where new players to the club must complete the EOI information prior to the 31 January in the year in which they wish to play.

Registrations will be open only to existing/returning (from prior season) players until 31 January. All existing players will be advised to register or contact the club prior to the 31 January to ensure their position is committed to by registration or other means deemed acceptable by MJ AFC.

After 31<sup>st</sup> January MJ AFC will review registrations/commitments of/to existing players versus total age group limits. This will provide the number of available registrations for new players to the club.

Determination of which players will be offered registration at MJ AFC will be by a priority order approach. Specific criteria will be used to create a priority order the potential new players on the EOI list to be offered registration. There will be a unique priority criterion for three groupings of age groups: Superstars, Juniors or Youth football will have priority orders set as described in their respective sections of this document.

## ***Superstars Football***

Superstars Footy is a Development Program (not a competition) for kids in the 5-7 age groups. The program is an extension of NAB AFL Auskick, where participants play game-based activities leading into modified (non-contact) AFL matches.

The New Players to the Club Policy does not currently extend to Superstars football.

## ***Juniors – Under 8 - 11 (Boys and Girls)***

For Junior Football, MJAFc will follow this priority order to select which new players to the club should be offered registration, after their submission to the EOI page:

1. Sibling\* of existing player
2. Former Panthers player, not from prior season, returning within 2 years (when not playing with another local club)
3. Auskick at Morningside within the last 2 years
4. New players to club locally, Interstate Transfers and regional Qld transfers (outside of SEQ)
5. Transferring players from other local Clubs

(Note – Players seeking to transfer from other SEQ clubs will be last on the EOI priority list – As discussed with AFLQ, these players will be encouraged to remain at their home club in an effort to best maintain their player base.)

Should a decision of who to register between two players be required, and they both are assessed at the same priority order. The earliest to submit their details on the EOI page will be selected.

## ***Youth Under 12 - Under 16 Boys and Under 13 - 17 Girls***

Please refer to the “New Players to Club Policy - Youth”.

### ***Miscellaneous***

Discretionary extenuating circumstance may be granted to a new player by MJAFc Committee to allow a player’s registration outside of these guidelines. For example, but not limited to: Child or sibling or life member of the club, major sponsor, senior player.

\*Sibling also refers to de facto siblings – etc. cousins living together or in the care of same guardian. It also can refer to Indigenous Australian kinship relationships.