

Mumbles Rangers Football Club - Transition to 11-a-side Football Policy

Transition to 11-a-side Football Policy v 7.1 Revised September 2015 Accepted Management 12th October 2015

Aims of the policy - The transition from mini football to 11-a-side is a major change. This policy aims to set out a process that is clear and fair to all children and parents concerned. If implemented accurately and sensitively, the policy should ensure that all children are given every opportunity to develop into the best footballers they can be, as well as ensure ongoing success as a football club.

Implementing the policy - This policy sets out the process that must take place when Mumbles Rangers teams progress from mini football and form 11-a-side squad(s) into Under 12 football. Any exception to this policy must be agreed by the full Club management committee.

The process

1. Awareness raising: Parents of children in all Mumbles mini football teams will be issued with a copy of this policy at the start of the Under 8s football season and the start of each subsequent season. This should raise awareness and prevent surprises in the final year of mini football.
2. Nominating an Advisor: Before the start of the team's final year in mini football, the Club will nominate a Club officer to act as an Advisor to assist all such teams in progressing to 11-a-side football. The nominated Advisor will contact the manager(s) of team(s) about to start their final year in mini football to ensure they are aware of and understand this policy. The Advisor will also discuss with the current manager(s) whether or not they wish to continue managing when the team progresses to 11-a-side football.
3. Selecting players: The priority is to begin the process of selecting a squad of players to form the 'A' squad. This squad will be known as the 'Rangers'. The selection of players for the Rangers squad will be led by the nominated advisor along with ALL the other managers/coaches under 11 year, these will be known as the Selection Team. The Selection Team are permitted to select players from all teams in their final year of mini football. The selection should be made on the basis of the child's ability, commitment and attitude and should seek to create the strongest squad possible for the Rangers Team. Players having played for the club during the final year of mini football should be given preference over any players that are new to the club. (It is important to note that the son(s) of the coach(es) of the Rangers squad should not be selected for the Rangers squad unless they deserve their place in relation to ability, commitment and attitude.)
4. Appointment of Managers/Coaches: Appointment of the Team Manager(s) and Coaches for the 11-a-sidesquads will be undertaken with the agreement of ALL the Managers/Coaches of the teams in the final year of mini football AFTER the completion of the selection of players into the individual 11-a-side squads. The selection of the Managers/Coaches considering the allocation of teams in which their sons have been placed. The appointment of these Managers/Coaches should also consider suitability of ability/commitment and attitude. If agreement cannot be reached the Advisor and 3 other Club Officers shall have responsibility to appoint the Managers/Coaches of each team(s).

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5. Squad size: The Rangers squad should have a minimum of 16 players and a maximum of 18 players. When deciding the number of players in the Rangers squad consideration should be given to the likelihood of being able to form a B squad [For example, if by selecting 18 players for the Rangers squad this leaves only 15 players for the B squad, the Rangers squad size should be reduced to 17].
6. Forming B and C squads: If, after the formation of the Rangers squad, there are sufficient players remaining, the Club would seek to form a 'B' and 'C' squads and Players having played for the club during the final year of mini football should be given preference over any players that are new to the club. The name of these squads will be 'Mumbles Rangers Albion' and 'Mumbles Rangers Colts'.
7. Formation of B and C squads: The allocation of players into the Albion and Colts squads will be based on ability/commitment/attitude and these squads will be known as Development squads to feed into the Rangers squad.
8. Transfer of Players into the Rangers squad: Each December the Managers/Coaches of the 2/3 squads should review the progress of individual players who have the potential to move into the Rangers squad. However, this will only happen if all interested parties are in agreement and pressure should not be placed on any individual player
9. Meeting the Advisor: Before the manager(s) announce the list of players selected for the squads, the manager(s) should arrange a formal meeting with the nominated Advisor to discuss the process and pre-empt any possible problems.
10. Announcing the squads: Manager(s) should announce the selection to all interested parties by the end of March. This announcement should be made sensitively and should take all possible steps to avoid discouraging and disappointing the children. Please note the Club wishes to encourage as many children as possible to continue playing football and the process of selecting the 11-a-side squads is not set out to disadvantage players or the teams playing in the name of the Club
11. Selecting match day teams: Once the squads are formed, the manager(s) should seek to give all players ample opportunity to play in competitive matches. However, in a competitive environment this does not necessarily mean that all players in the 11-a-side squads can be guaranteed equal playing time. Please note the Club encourages managers to try their best to win football matches but managers should use their own judgement and discretion to balance this with the need to develop all players in the squad.

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12. Any player expressing an interest or wish to join a particular squad should be allowed to do so if all managers/coaches agree and it does not place any squad at a disadvantage.

13. Academy/Excellence players: Any player selected for any Academy or Excellence squad can expect his Club registration to be held open for a period of 6 months from the date of leaving the Club team. For any period away from the Club team exceeding 6 months the player will receive absolute priority in returning and re-registering with his Club team, if they are released by the Academy or Excellence squad.

Mike Podbielski
Secretary
Mumbles Rangers
12th October 2015