



Pakenham Junior Football Club seeks to maintain a fair registration process for both existing and new players.

1.1 Registration process

The Club will notify all past players when the next seasons registration has opened.

The Club will:

- open up registrations on the 1st October each year for all previous players
- open up registrations on the 1st November each year for all new players
- notify all register players from the previous year of the registration arrangement for the coming season.
- post the registration details on its website and social media in late September each year.

To register, players will need to:

- register on line,
- lodge their completed registration forms at registration day' (if held) or
- post or email their completed registration forms.

Past players are encouraged to register on-line and will be prioritised if registrations are received before 1st November.

Registrations will not be considered until they are received by the Club Registrar. Applications should not be given to coaches, team managers or other Club officials.

1.2 Late registrations

Registrations received after the registration date will be deemed to be late with the player placed on a waitlist (even if the player has previously played with PJFC) and will be processed in the order in which they were received after all those registrations that were received on time have been processed.

1.2 New players

Registrations from new players will not be processed until the Club has been able to allocate a place to all the previous year's players who registered on time. The Committee, in consultation with the relevant coach, will determine whether new players should be offered a place.

1.3 Minimum age

In accordance with SEJ rules a player must attain at least the age of eight years during that person's first year of registration with the SEJ (i.e. if a player does not turn 8 or more the player cannot play Under 9s football).

A player's age group shall be based on the player's age as at January 1 each year.

Example: a player that is 8 years of age as at January 1 and therefore turning 9 during the year would play in the U9 age group.

1.4 Correct age

For safety & developmental reasons, all players must register in their correct age group. Any player who has previously been allowed to play in an older age group will not automatically be permitted to play up in a subsequent year.

In exceptional circumstances, PJFC Committee may permit U14 -U17 (Youth football) players to play up an age level when their physical capacity and development is deemed to require them to compete at the higher level. The decision whether a player should play up, will be based on the advantages to be gained by the player. Where this is applicable, players are not permitted to play more than 2 years above the age group for which the player qualifies by age.

A Player who wishes to apply for dispensation to play in a Competition below their applicable age group on the basis of a Disability or for Physical Size or Development Considerations must make an application through the Player's Club, to the League.

Application is to be made on the prescribed form and must be supported by a Certificate from an appropriately qualified Medical Specialist in an area of practice that is directly related to the dispensation being sought. Such Certificate must state the basis for and reasons to support the request for the Player to play down a Competition age group, having regard to all relevant matters pertaining to the Player, including:

- (i) the Player's Disability and/or;
- (ii) the Player's Physical Size or Development Considerations; and
- (iii) the qualifications of the person providing the Certificate.

In accordance with the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy, the League may:

- (i) approve the application including for a specified period of time;
- (ii) refuse the application;
- (iii) request additional information from the Player or from the Club, to enable it to more fully consider the application.

Refer Schedule 28 for the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy



1.5 Gender

Pakenham Junior Football Club actively encourages girls to play football.

Subject to satisfactory interest, the Club may enter a team or teams in girls' only competitions convened by SEJ.

1.6 Mixed abilities

Pakenham Junior Football Club actively encourages people of mixed abilities to play football where it is safe to do so.

1.7 Too many players

The Club may have multiple teams in the same age group. Depending on the number of players who register in subsequent years it may be necessary to consolidate the teams into a single team.

Should this be the case the Club will endeavour to accommodate all players (e.g. it may invite players to play in the next highest team). No new players will be accepted into the higher team until this process has been completed. If there are still too many players from the previous season, the players will be selected in the following order:

1. Players who have a sibling playing with the Club;
2. Players whose parents have made a significant contribution to the Club in past years (i.e. coach, assistant coach, team manager, runner, trainer, committee person or other persons deemed by the Committee to have made a significant contribution to the Club in past years);
3. Players who have played the most years with the Club;
4. If necessary, priority will then be given to those players who have played the most games with the Club.