



Trumpington Football Club Team Selection Policy

1. The Club shall be called Trumpington Football Club (hereinafter called the Club).
2. The Team Selection policy exists to provide transparency to members regarding the creation of the teams and modification thereof mid-way and/or at the end of the season.
3. The aim of the team selection policy is to meet the Constitution requirements: 3.1, 4.1, 13.1 and 13.2.
4. The Club welcomes everyone but tiers the teams based on ability; there is overlap in ability.
5. Teams are formed by the independent Head Coach in consultation with the professional coaching team and Managers. The Head Coach will have the final decision on team formation.
6. Teams are formed based on factors such as (but not limited to): core skills, confidence on the ball, tactical game knowledge and awareness, ability to handle game speed, ability to handle and impose challenge, decision making abilities, confidence, player welfare, sportsmanship, respect and attitude.
7. Teams are not formed based on factors such as (but not limited to): school, school football squad, academy membership, parent opinion of their child, friendship groups of children or parents, or parental logistics.
8. New members ability is assessed by the professional coaches before a place in a team is offered. This will usually involve attending a training session where core skills, playing style, positional and game knowledge and strategy can be assessed. Assessments are conducted in a relaxed manner with children of a similar age. On occasion players may be called back for a second assessment. Squad places are offered within 1 months of assessment.
9. The size of a team is determined by the Head Coach in consultation with Managers and is based on the FA rules of the game for each age group, plus additional players to allow for substitutions and player attendance. Teams are kept on the smaller side to enable maximum playing opportunity for members of a team to support their development and minimise bench time.
10. If a place cannot be offered in a team e.g. there is no place available in a team, there are insufficient numbers, or the player cannot or doesn't wish to commit to regular training and matches then a place in the development squad will be offered.

11. Twice a season (typically Christmas & May) the Head Coach formally reaches out to the coaching team and Managers to discuss how the team is progressing and individual performance. The Club then works with the league to manage movement in division allocation to ensure the level of opposition challenge is appropriate, team specific coaching needs are agreed and players development targets identified. The feedback is then consolidated into Players Personalised Developmental Reports issued to members.
12. It is the default that players, once allocated to a team will remain in that team for the entire season. Changes will only take place for the benefit of the child and these will take place at the end of the season. Only in exceptional circumstance will this take place at other times.
13. On occasion it may be necessary for players to change team. Reasons for moving a child are (but not limited to):
 - Incorrect allocation upon joining the club.
 - Player didn't attend an assessment day or joined halfway through the season and in order to join the club, temporarily accepted a place in a team of a dissimilar ability due to current vacancies.
 - Player has developed beyond the capabilities of the existing team and requires a greater level of challenge for continued development.
 - Player is struggling within the existing team and requires a lower level of challenge to support their continued development.
14. Managers feedback is expected to be unbiased and in the spirit of fairness to support members development and will not "hold back" a child to achieve match wins. Managers are expected to remain neutral as to whether a player is or isn't in their team.
15. If there should be any changes in team membership these are communicated via email to parents and managers during the Christmas break and shortly after the end of the season when teams for the new season (also incorporating new players) are formed.
16. Members should be aware of their personal development targets. Player development, player targets reasons behind team selection or team changes can be discussed with the Head Coach at any time.