

Central Conference Age Group Policy

The Central Conference is developing a policy for the classification of the school year registrations of players. It is understood that the intent of changing the junior football competitions from an age group classification (ie 17's, 16's, 15's, etc.) to a school year cohort classification (ie Year 12, Year 11, Year 10, etc) was to align football registration with school year rather than a pure age group basis.

With that in mind the Central Conference districts are looking to introduce a more flexible registration (and/or play down policy) than perhaps they have applied in the past. This is to also align with what we understand is applied in the other two conferences.

The policy basis is:

- The player should primarily play in their school year. Typically they should fall within the prescribed age group limits (July to June) for that school year.
- Should a registration seek to apply to play in their school year, but their age is outside of the prescribed age group for that school year, then they may apply to the conference administrators group to play in their school year (play down).
- A registrant that has been placed in a school year (without having repeated a previous school year) would be genuinely considered to be allowed to play in their designated school year, upon proof of school year registration from the school. Typically:
 - They were placed in that school year due to having moved to WA from an outside location,
 - May have relocated within WA to another school that have placed them in that school year,
 - May have been considered immature at an earlier age and placed there by the school when first registering,
 - Would have a birth date within close proximity of the prescribed school year dates.
- A registrant that is seeking to play in their school year after having repeated a school year at some stage, would need to be considered to play down only if they meet the size and disability criteria within the current rules.