

WUHA CLUB LEAGUE PROCESS

Club Reps

Each of the clubs have nominated 'Club Reps' and they form a subcommittee to assist the Clubs Coordinator. They provide input and can review everything to help create the calendar, grades, player ratings, and team selection. Club Reps are particularly important for new/young members internal to their individual club that not everybody will know.

Trial Nights

Held at the start and middle of the year, the objective is to allow Club Reps to watch players, learn new people and gauge their abilities to help when selecting teams and grades.

Leagues

The year of pool bookings is broken down into different Leagues. They are decided based on tournaments, university, and school holidays (and generally when we seem to have influxes or drop offs of players). The 'highest' level of League is the WUHA Cup Leagues, where goal tracking and sin bins are tracked, no mercs are allowed, and they run for 8 weeks or longer. The other shorter leagues are to fill in gaps and provide variation and opportunities to keep players interested. Full breakdowns of the Leagues and their purposes are on the website.

Grades

The long-term goal is to be able to have 3 grades run for games nights, and they would be comparable to the grading at Club Nationals (Prem, A, and B). For that to be viable at least 3 teams in each grade are required. Based on current sign ups we don't have the numbers to be able to implement the three grades. This means we utilise two grades, the level of play shifts slightly depending on sign ups, but are typically a combination of Prem/A and A/B.

Player Ranking

Players provide information such as their preferred positions and grades, they are then given a single rating/rank that all the Club Reps agree on. These ranks include:

4 (*Prem Level*) – They are definitely able to play in the highest grade.

3 (*Low Prem / High A*) - They are able to play in the highest grade but may not be a standout player.

2 (*Low A / High B*) - They would struggle in the highest grade but standout in the lowest grade.

1 (*B Level*) - They are definitely suited to play in lower grade.

**Note*

Should a player wish to know their current rating they may request it from the Clubs Coordinator, and if they feel it is inaccurate, they may request an evaluation outside of trial nights and the Club Reps will try to watch them in coming weeks for re-evaluation and feedback.

Attendance/Mercs

Mercs are players that can fill in for teams when they're running short on players, typically only used in the more casual leagues around holiday periods where significant portions of people come and go. Each League states whether there are allowed to be mercs, WUHA Cup League is the only one that doesn't allow Mercs. It is the Clubs Coordinator in coordination with the Leagues Captains to organise Mercs for each team.

Attendance is tracked for all leagues, so there is data to compare how reliable players are when Club Reps select teams. There are only 'consequences' for poor attendance at WUHA Cup Leagues. This is because there are no mercs allowed at this league, so it has the most detrimental effect to a player's team. If a player's attendance is below the required threshold it is reviewed by Club Reps on an individual basis (concussions/injuries/holidays/events being the causes). Another factor is whether the player had pre-informed Club Reps about absence on the sign-up form. The 'consequence' could be that the player is ineligible to play in the higher grade (should you be able and want to) in the next Cup, which allows for a new (more reliable) up and comer to try and learn in the higher grade.

**Note*

Poor attendance is discussed in depth with the individuals as Club Reps do not wish to lose players should they feel they are being unfairly punished.

Team Selection Process

Now is where it gets particularly frustrating, as we are a minority sport and there's never a nice spread, it all depends on the number of players (and their respective rankings) that sign up for the league as to where the Club Reps have to draw the line and split players into the two grades.

1. All the 4's and 1's are placed into their respective grades.
2. Gather all the 3's and 2's together and sort them amongst 3's, 2's, positions, and attendance
3. Club Reps finalise the number of players split across grades i.e. 33 and 42 player split, or 30 and 45 player split
4. Create an outline of the teams in the top grade from the players ranked 4's
5. Distribute players ranked as 3's into the top-grade teams based on position, ability, and attendance
6. Club Reps then distribute the remaining players in the lower grade across teams (there is a standard request to try and keep adult players together where possible for both their enjoyment and school players enjoyment)

**Note*

Depending on the number of players signed up and their rankings, either some 2's (very rarely) get placed into the top grade, or alternatively and more regularly, some 3's get dropped into the lower grade.