

Ballingarry A.F.C

Founded 1984

Member Limerick Desmond Football League
Member Limerick Desmond Ladies League
Member LDSGL
Affiliated to Munster Football Association
Affiliated to Football Association of Ireland
Affiliated to WFAI
Affiliated to Schoolboy Football Association of Ireland



Colours: *Green / Gold*

Secretary: Niall Quille
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Tel: 087 2794911
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Ballingarry AFC Policy for Addressing Concerns about Player Game Time

1. Introduction

Ballingarry AFC is dedicated to fostering a positive and enjoyable soccer environment for every player. We understand the importance of playing time in a child's development and are committed to ensuring that all players have the opportunity to grow their skills and contribute to their team.

This policy outlines the club's approach to addressing concerns about playing time, with a focus on promoting fair play and maximizing player development in line with the FAI Player Development Plan.

2. Guiding Principles

Player Development: The primary focus is on the long-term development of each player.

Fair Play: Playing time should be allocated fairly, considering factors such as ability, effort, attitude, attendance, and team needs.

Open Communication: Coaches, players, and parents should maintain open and honest communication about playing time.

Team Success: While individual development is important, the team's overall success is also a consideration.

Adherence to FAI Guidelines: The club adheres to the FAI's Player Development Plan with an emphasis on age-appropriate development and a balanced approach to training and playing time.

3. Age-Specific Playing Time Guidelines

Ballingarry AFC is committed to providing all players with meaningful playing time while acknowledging the developmental needs and competitive nature of different age groups. The following guidelines will be used:

Under 6s to Under 9s: Emphasis on participation and enjoyment. Coaches will aim to provide equal playing time for all players.

Under 10s and Under 11s: A minimum of 25% playing time for all players on average over the season.

Under 12s to Under 16s: A minimum of 25% playing time for all players on average over the season.



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Age Group	Squad Size	Team Size	Match Format	Match Duration	Referees	Playing Time	League Tables	Pitch Size (m) Min/Max	Goal Size	Ball Size & Weight
U6	10	4 v 4 (no GK)	Twin	4 x 10 mins	No	75%	No	35m x 20m max * 30m x 20m min	1m x 3m	5 (290 gms)
U7	10	4 v 4 (no GK)	Twin	4 x 10 mins	No	75%	No	35m x 20m max * 30m x 20m min	1m x 3m	5 (290 gms)
U8	12	5 v 5	Twin	4 x 12 mins	No	75%	No	45m x 25m max * 40m x 25m min	2m x 5m	5 (290 gms)
U9	12	5 v 5	Twin	4 x 12 mins	No	75%	No	45m x 25m max * 40m x 25m min	2m x 5m	5 (320 gms)
U10	16	7 v 7	Twin	2 x 25 mins	Yes	50%	No	65m x 40m max * 60m x 35m min	2m x 5m	5 (320 gms)
U11	16	7 v 7	Twin	2 x 25 mins	Yes	50%	No*	65m x 40m max * 60m x 35m min	2m x 5m	5 (320 gms)
U12	16	9 v 9	Normal	2 x 30 mins	Yes	25% to 50%	Yes	Box to Box, see page 24	2m x 5m	5 (370 gms)
U13	16	11 v 11	Normal	2 x 30 mins	Yes	25% to 50%	Yes	Full	Full	5 (370 gms)
U14	16	11 v 11	Normal	2 x 35 mins	Yes	25% to 50%	Yes	Full	Full	5 (370 gms)
U15	16	11 v 11	Normal	2 x 35 mins	Yes	25% to 50%	Yes	Full	Full	5 (450 gms)
U16	16	11 v 11	Normal	2 x 40 mins	Yes	25% to 50%	Yes	Full	Full	5 (450 gms)

4. Addressing Concerns

a) Player's Role:

Players are encouraged to speak with their coach if they have any concerns about playing time. Players should focus on their own performance, effort, and continuous improvement.

b) Coach's Role:

Coaches should clearly communicate their expectations to players and the factors influencing playing time decisions. Coaches should provide regular feedback to players on their performance. Coaches should foster a positive and supportive environment where all players feel valued.

c) Parent's Role:

Parents should support their child's development and encourage a focus on effort and improvement. Parents should avoid putting undue pressure on their child or the coach regarding playing time. Parents with concerns should first encourage their child to speak with the coach. If unresolved, parents can schedule a meeting with the coach to discuss their concerns respectfully.

d) Club's Role:

The club will provide support and guidance to coaches, players, and parents in addressing playing time concerns. The club will ensure that all coaches are aware of and adhere to this policy. The club will appoint a designated Child Welfare Officer as a point of contact for any serious concerns or complaints.



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5. Exceptional Circumstances

There may be exceptional circumstances where a player's playing time needs to be adjusted, such as:

Injury or illness:

Disciplinary issues:

Representative games: Where players are selected for representative teams, this may impact playing time with their club team.

Coaches should communicate clearly with the player and parents in these situations.

6. Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically and updated as needed.

7. Communication

This policy will be communicated to all coaches, players, and parents through the club website, email, and other appropriate channels.

By working together and adhering to this policy, Ballingarry AFC aims to create a positive and rewarding soccer experience for all players, fostering their development and love for the game.

8. Volunteers

Ballingarry AFC, a renowned soccer club with a rich history dating back to 1984, thrives on the dedication and passion of its volunteers. These individuals play an invaluable role in the development of football within the community, contributing their time and effort to ensure the smooth running of the club both on and off the field. Volunteers are involved in various aspects of the club's operations, including coaching, fundraising, administration, and groundskeeping. Their commitment to providing a positive and supportive environment for players of all ages is essential to Ballingarry AFC's success and its continued impact on the local community.

Volunteer coaches are the backbone of youth sports, generously dedicating their time and effort to provide a positive sporting experience for our children. These individuals deserve our utmost respect and appreciation. Remember that they are often juggling work, family, and other commitments while volunteering countless hours to coach. A simple "thank you" goes a long way, as does acknowledging the positive impact they have on your child and the team. Constructive communication is key - if you have concerns, approach the coach with respect and a willingness to work together. Let's create a supportive environment where our volunteer coaches feel valued and appreciated for their invaluable contribution to our children's development.

