

2013 - New or amended Junior By-Laws

3.2.3.2 Mercy Rule – Under 11 only

The Mercy Rule will apply to the U11 age group and will be invoked if the score differential at half time or three quarter time of a match is sixty (60) points or greater. Once invoked the rule will remain in place for the remainder of the match.

Once invoked the following change to match conditions will be implemented by the umpires:

- After any score by the winning team, play is restarted with the losing team given possession of the ball in the centre circle.

The Mercy Rule does not apply in finals matches.

The Mercy Rule will apply for the 2013 season only, with its inclusion in by-laws for future seasons to be reviewed prior to the 2014 season.

This rule is not designed to achieve an even sharing of the ball between all players irrespective of their ability. The purpose of the rule is, however, to create a more fair and even contest once one team has a significant lead in a match. The WRFL expects all team officials, players and supporters to adhere to the spirit of this rule and reserves the right to monitor all matches to ensure clubs are meeting this responsibility.

Movement of players between teams during home and away season

4.1.2.6 Where a club has multiple teams in the under 11 to under 16 age groups movement of players between teams is subject to the following:

- a) When a higher grade team has a bye no player who played in that team in the previous round will be permitted to play with a team in a lower grade in the same age group or lower age group.
- b) If the lower grade or lower age group team has a genuine shortage of players the club may seek approval of the General Manager Football Operations for utilisation of players from the higher grade or age group team.

Penalty for breach: treated as per ineligible player (refer by-law 4.2)

4.6.2 Eligibility of Under Age (U11 to U16) Players in Finals Games:

4.6.2.1 To be eligible to compete in a finals team, a player must have played the minimum number of matches required in the team concerned. This minimum number may vary depending on the number of home and away matches the team is eligible to play (as specified in the following table):

| Number of matches team plays in season | Minimum matches required to be eligible |
|--|---|
| 10/11 matches | 4 |
| 12/13/14 matches | 5 |
| 15/16 matches | 6 |

4.6.2.2 If a player has played six (6) or more matches in a higher grade team in the same or higher age group he/she shall be ineligible to play in finals in a lower grade team in the same or lower age group.

4.6.2.3 Clubs who have more than one (1) team in any grade of the same age group playing in finals matches on the same weekend will be allowed free interchange of players for that weekend's finals matches provided players do not play more than one (1) game on the same weekend. If special circumstances arise an exemption to this rule may be approved by the General Manager Football Operations.

4.6.2.4 Where a team has a genuine shortage of eligible players for a finals match because of injury or other special circumstances the club may seek approval from the General Manager Football Operations for the utilisation of players from other teams. League approval will only be considered for players from a team playing in a lower grade of the same age group. If the club does not have a team in a lower grade of the same age group it may seek approval to use players from a lower age group.