



15th of March 2010

Dear Cobra Parents,

We are writing regards to the 2010 season for Canterbury Under 13s, as you are aware the club grades players from the U13 age level and we would like to provide the following information in relation to the grading and rotation process.

We wish to confirm that the purpose of this grading is NOT to create one elite team and one "other," but to choose two well balanced, competitive teams to play in a grade/level best suited to the skills and development of the children.

The YJFL rules permit CJFC to rotate players between the 2 sides; this provides an opportunity for us to give every child who we believe capable of playing in the higher division the opportunity to do so. We may also sometimes rotate players from the Black team into the Red team to provide more set positional game time, and/or to work on specific aspects of their game. During the first half of the season we will rotate the players on a regular basis. The coaches will individually notify any rotating players during the Wednesday night training session, and confirm the teams to the rest of the squad afterwards. After round 8 the coaches, football manager and coaches director will meet to discuss the rotations for the 2nd half of the season.

In addition to the above assessment for team selection will include:-

- Skill assessment feedback from season 2009 coaches
- Playing position availability (game time opportunity)
- Physical maturity
- Skill assessment/Game sense.
- Existing group and team balance.
- Availability to train on a regular basis
- YJFL game limits for finals qualification.

The focus for the U13 age group will cover /introduce several competencies relating to the game as a part of the development of each boy and his football.

- Skill Development (priority#1)
- Increase knowledge of team plays/tactics
- Increase knowledge of positional play
- Develop decision making

The entire U13 Group will train in part as a squad for a minimum period of 20min per training session. Squad training both playing groups from the first session allows for all players to be assessed on a fair and even keel, it also creates familiarity for the whole group and assists the coaches with providing parallel development.

The club would like to thank Michael Harper who does not have a son playing in the u13s, but has put his hand up to coach the U13s Red side. Michael was the coaching director last year and has extensive football knowledge and therefore has already gained experience in the grading procedure. Thanks to Ian Clifford for his 2nd year as coach and will be given the task of coaching the black side and developing them to the next level of their footy careers.

Should you have any queries in relation to player selection we ask that you contact Mark Connolly (coaching director) on Mob 0417207722. Mark Connolly has been involved with this group as a coach when they were U10s and U11s. He will continue to assist Ian Clifford and Michael Harper with player selection, rotations and ensure players are provided with development opportunities in both teams.

We believe 2010 will be an exciting and rewarding one for our Under 13 Cobras teams, and we look forward to you being a part of it. Should you have any questions on the above please do not hesitate to contact any of the writers.

Yours Sincerely,

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