



NSJCA AGE POLICY

(Age dispensation policy for the North Shore Junior Cricket Association)

Policy Statement

This document is designed to set out the guidelines under which a junior cricket player may compete in an age group higher or lower than the player's playing age. Applications for Age Dispensation shall only be granted if it is considered that it will help in the further development of a junior cricket player.

Background Information and Principles

Players should be encouraged to play in their correct age group unless special circumstances apply. However, this policy acknowledges that it is the principal role of the parent or guardian to decide that a player should not play in the age group determined by their playing age.

In these circumstances, parents/guardians may request that a player play up to enhance his or her skills or provide further enjoyment to the player. Decisions on players playing up can be handled at club registration level but the association has policies regarding the number of years up a player may play. In special circumstances it may be appropriate that a player should be able to play down. Such decisions on players playing up multiple years or down must be considered by the Age Dispensation Sub Committee of the NSJCA.

The decision on whether a player may receive dispensation should be based on the particular circumstances of the player. However, the decision will be made taking into consideration the other players in that age group. A request by a player to play down in order to be with friends is not sufficient reason for granting an age dispensation. Ordinarily, dispensation will not be granted other than on medical, extenuating and/or compassionate grounds. However, see Rule 13 of the NSJCA Blue Book for automatic dispensation for first time players only in the U9 and U10 Stage 1 competitions.

Definitions

A player's age is determined as at 31st August.

Player age groups for the next four cricket seasons are as follows:-

Players born 1 Sept to 31 Aug	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Players born 1/9/2021 to 31/8/2022					JBs
Players born 1/9/2020 to 31/8/ 2021				JBs	JBs
Players born 1/9/2019 to 31/8/ 2020			JBs	JBs	MBs
Players born 1/9/2018 to 31/8/ 2019		JBs	JBs	MBs	MBs
Players born 1/9/2017 to 31/8/ 2018	JBs	JBs	MBs	MBs	U8
Players born 1/9/2016 to 31/8/2017	JBs	MBs	MBs	U8	U9
Players born 1/9/2015 to 31/8/2016	MBs	MBs	U8	U9	U10
Players born 1/9/2014 to 31/8/2015	MBs	U8	U9	U10	U11
Players born 1/9/ 2013 to 31/8/2014	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
Players born 1/9/2012 to 31/8/2013	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13
Players born 1/9/2011 to 31/8/2012	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14
Players born 1/9/2010 to 31/8/2011	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15
Players born 1/9/2009 to 31/8/2010	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16
Players born 1/9/2008 to 31/8/2009	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17
Players born 1/9/2007 to 31/8/2008	U14	U15	U16	U17	**
Players born 1/9/2006 to 31/8/2007	U15	U16	U17	**	
Players born 1/9/2005 to 31/8/2006	U16	U17	**		
Players born 1/9/2004 to 31/8/2005	U17	**			
Players born 1/9/2003 to 31/8/2004	**				

JBs - Junior Blaster

MBs - Master Blaster

** - U17 if in Yr11 at the start of the season

Where an age group is combined e.g. U13/14 both years are acceptable.

Dispensation

To Play Up is to compete in an age group higher than the first available for that aged player.

To Play Down is to compete in an age group lower than the first available for that aged player.

Procedure for application for Age Dispensation

1. It is the responsibility of the players' Club (usually the Registrar) to advise a player's parents if a player is over age and requires Age Dispensation.
2. Each Club should ensure a player's Team Coach and Manager are aware of their player's ages and take reasonable measures to ensure correct procedures are followed in order to request Age Dispensation.
3. The Age Dispensation application form is available on the website

www.nsjca.asn.au (under Library).

On completion it should be emailed to dispensation@nsjca.asn.au

4. The Age Dispensation Sub Committee will consist of no less than two club delegates, preferably from different clubs.
5. The Age Dispensation Convenor will allocate a number to the age dispensation application and email a copy to the Age Dispensation Sub Committee members.
6. Age Dispensation Sub Committee members are permitted to contact the originator for additional information if required. This should be done in a manner that all Sub Committee members are aware of, to ensure double up requests are not made.
7. If there is unanimous agreement to the application then the originator is advised, as well as the Club. This approval is also pre-empted with the understanding that the NSJCA Executive Committee can review and withdraw the dispensation at its discretion during the season.
8. If agreement to the application is not unanimous then the originator is advised that the application has been unsuccessful and the player is required to play in his/her age Group.
9. The Age Dispensation Sub Committee will provide a reason why the application has been unsuccessful i.e. there is insufficient evidence provided with the application.

10. The originator can request a dispensation, not approved by the Age Dispensation Sub Committee, be subsequently reviewed by the Executive Committee at the next Committee meeting.
11. Application for Age Dispensation must be submitted to the Age Dispensation Convenor prior to the first round of the season in each competition year. However, allowance for the first round of the competition will be made while consideration is given to all age dispensation applications.
12. Under Section 12 Eligibility for Competition in the NSJCA Rules, any team that plays an over age player after commencement of Round 2 without Age Dispensation, will lose competition points for those matches the player participated.
13. The Age Dispensation Committee will publish the names of all players granted Age Dispensation for the season in question. In addition to this, relevant sub committees will be advised of player age dispensation as required. For example the Results Convenor and Umpires and Rules Convenor.
14. Once approved the Age Dispensation will apply only to the competition year in question.
15. The Age Dispensation Sub Committee will evaluate the player's progress throughout the season to ensure that no unfair disadvantage to other players in the age group is Occurring.
16. The Age Dispensation Sub Committee will review the end of season results to ensure a player allowed age dispensation is not permitted to receive an individual NSJCA award in that age group.
17. It may also be pertinent for Team Managers to advise opposing teams that they have a player who has been granted Age Dispensation for the season.

Policy Review

The Executive Committee of the NSJCA approved this policy and will review its appropriateness each season, taking into consideration feedback from club delegates and player representatives.
