

MEMO 55 - 24

To: Advanced Clubs
From: Football Queensland
Subject: 2025 Advanced Leagues Dispensation
Date: December 5, 2024

Dear Clubs

Football Queensland has confirmed key information and processes regarding Outside of Eligible Age Dispensation for Advanced Leagues, including FQ Academy Leagues, for the 2025 season.

Clubs are reminded that Football Queensland's established position is that all players should participate within their own age group based on the long-term development goals in place.

Any request to Football Queensland to play outside of a player's eligible age group should be made only if it is in the best interests of the individual player considering their technical, physical, psychological and social development and supported by submissions detailing comprehensive evidence by the club's technical directors and officials.

With these factors in mind, please note that dispensation requests will not be able to be submitted or considered by FQ until 10 January 2025, allowing for further maturation to occur before the beginning of the season.

Approvals granted for the 2024 season will NOT be carried over into the 2025 season. The outcome of any request submitted to FQ should in no way impact the ability for a player to be accommodated in a team at their club. All offers made to players must be **UNCONDITIONAL**, with no promises regarding positions in teams outside of their eligible age group.

Noting that borrowing limits and regulations will apply similarly to previous seasons, which are outlined in the [2025 Advanced Rules of Competition](#), the following processes will pertain to all cases of playing outside of eligible age group:

Permanent Dispensation Requests

- All cases of playing below eligible age group will require a *Permanent Dispensation Request Form* to be submitted, with a determination provided by FQ after consultation between the FQ Technical and Competitions departments.
- This opportunity only applies to junior players and is not available for any boys turning 19 years of age to play in U18s. Any applications submitted for this age group, or any request to play two or more years below a player's eligible age, will not be considered.

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- Any players wishing to participate in age groups two or more years above their eligible age must also complete a *Permanent Dispensation Request Form* for a determination from FQ. The only exception to this rule is in the combined FQ Academy League Girls age groups, where players from the higher year bracket of their current double age group who wish to play up either permanently or as a borrowed player must complete the *Ad Hoc Dispensation Form*.
- All cases of girls wishing to play permanently in the FQ Academy League Boys competitions must also complete a *Permanent Dispensation Request Form* for a determination from FQ.

For all Permanent Dispensation Requests pertaining to players in the FQ Academy Leagues, the following windows will apply. Any requests submitted outside of these windows will not be considered.

- **Window 1:** Form open for submissions from 10-21 January 2025, with determinations to be provided to clubs by FQ no later than 31 January 2025.
- **Window 2:** Form open for submissions from 9-13 March 2025, with determinations to be provided to clubs by FQ no later than 19 March 2025.

Ad Hoc Dispensation Requests

- All players who wish to play in one age group above their eligible age in the FQ Academy Leagues, or from the higher year of their combined girls age group into the next available combined girls age group, must complete the *Ad Hoc Dispensation Request Form* prior to doing so. This form must only be completed on **one occasion per player** and applies to playing up permanently or when being borrowed within the restrictions outlined in the 2025 Advanced Rules of Competition.
- All cases of boys turning 16 years of age in 2025, or girls turning 15 years of age in 2025 who wish to participate in senior competitions, in line with any restrictions outlined in the 2025 Advanced Rules of Competition, will also require an *Ad Hoc Dispensation Request Form* to be completed.
- The *Ad Hoc Dispensation Request Form* will also be utilised for any requests regarding players being borrowed for higher divisions/age groups for Round 1 matches, and subsequently requesting a particular grading status. Borrowing requests through the season that fall outside of what is permitted in the 2025 Advanced Rules of Competition and requests for permanent regrading of players will also require the submission of this form. A written response and determination from FQ will be provided for all requests of this nature, which must be delivered prior to these players participating in any fixtures.

All forms will be made available to clubs from 10 January 2025 with further details regarding permanent dispensation and the borrowing process outlined in the [2025 Advanced Rules of Competition](#).

For any further information, please contact the FQ Competitions team on competitions@footballqueensland.com.au.

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