



## Playing Out of Age Group Policy

Pearcedale Baxter Junior Football Club ('PBJFC') is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable sporting environment for all children. Player safety and wellbeing informs all PBJFC policies and procedures.

PBJFC requires all players to participate in their designated age group, being the age group corresponding to their birth year (i.e. the age in which they are turning within the playing season), unless an exemption is granted by the PBJFC Executive Committee.

### Scope

This policy applies to all players registered with PBJFC.

This policy will be implemented commencing the 2026 season.

### Exemptions

The PBJFC Executive may grant an exemption that allows a player to play in the above age group. Exemptions are at the sole discretion of the PBJFC Executive and will be informed by a number of considerations, including, but not limited to:

#### *Team Numbers*

Exemptions will only be considered where there are sufficient players (21 or more) in any designated age group team to allow a player to play in the above age group.

Similarly, the above age group must not have more than 25 players in any team.

#### *Players*

The safety and welfare of players is the primary consideration when determining whether to grant an exemption to play in the above age group. The following factors will be considered:

- Physical Size
- Sporting Skills & Abilities
- Maturity
- Playing History
- Behavioural History

#### *Other*

The PBJFC has discretion to consider any other factors they deem relevant to consideration of an exemption.

Where the PBJFC forms the view that playing in the above age group will negatively effect a players safety, wellbeing and/or development, the exemption will be denied.

### Expression of Interest

Following player registration parents may submit an Expression of Interest Form (available at the conclusion of this Policy) to the PBJFC Executive. Parents are encouraged to speak to with their child and their age group coach prior to submitting an Expression of Interest Form.

## Further Information

Questions or requests for further information about this Policy should be directed to the PBJFC Committee.

## Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed and approved annually by the PBJFC Committee. The review will incorporate feedback from the PBJFC Community.

Last Review July 2025.

Next Review July 2026.



**BE SAFE  
FEEL SAFE  
PLAY SAFE**