

## Crossfire Select – Official Playing Time Policy

### 1. Purpose

This policy outlines the Club's standards for playing time for all Crossfire Select athletes and establishes clear expectations for players, families, and coaches across league play, non-state cup tournaments, and State Cup competitions.

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### 2. Playing Time Guidelines

#### 2.1 U9–U12

- Players will receive **50% playing time in every game**, provided eligibility expectations are met (see Section 2.4).

#### 2.2 U13 and Above

- Players will **start 25% of league games**.
- Players will receive **a minimum of 33% playing time in each game**.
- Additional playing time is at **coach discretion**, based on performance, effort, and attitude.

#### 2.3 Goalkeepers

- When teams have two goalkeepers, coaches should make every effort to **divide playing time equitably**.
- If splitting is not feasible, each goalkeeper should be provided opportunities to play full games.

#### 2.4 Eligibility for Minimum Playing Time

Minimum playing time is applied when a player demonstrates satisfactory adherence to the following:

- Consistent attendance at training sessions and games
- Strong work rate and effort at practices
- Positive attitude and behavior toward teammates, coaches, opponents, and referees

### 3. State Cup Exceptions

#### 3.1 Field Players

During State Cup competition, coaches may adjust playing time at their discretion to support team success, given the competitive environment and team dynamics. There is no set or guaranteed amount of playing time for any player during State Cup.

However, every player **MUST** be provided with an opportunity to play if they are meeting coach/team expectations. Refer to **2.4 Eligibility for Minimum Playing Time** **If the player does not meet those expectations and is not given an opportunity to play then the coach MUST inform the player and family as to why their kid didn't play. This is expected to be done prior to the game. The player must still attend the teams match to support the players and team.**

### 4. Communication Policy

#### 4.1 48-Hour Rule

To support constructive communication and prevent discussions made in the heat of the moment:

**Parents and players must wait a minimum of 48 hours after any game before contacting a coach regarding playing time or any game-related concerns. This also applies if there is a game the next day.**

**NOTE: Coaches may choose to also have parents wait until state cup has completed before meeting with the player/family.**

#### 4.2 Appropriate Timing

It is inappropriate for players or parents to approach a coach:

- Before a game
- During a game
- Immediately after a game

Beyond the 48-hour period, parents may request a meeting with the coach via:

- Phone call
- Email
- Scheduled in-person meeting

- This mandatory cooling-off period helps ensure productive, clear, and solution-focused communication between families and coaching staff.

#### **4.3 Coach Response**

If a parent approaches a coach at an inappropriate time, the coach should respectfully ask them to schedule a discussion later, following the 48-hour rule.

#### **4.4 Escalation**

If a coach declines to meet with the parent after they have followed the proper process, the parent may contact the **Director of Coaching**, who will facilitate further communication.

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### **5. Compliance**

Players, families, and coaches are expected to uphold this policy.

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in intervention by club leadership and potential restrictions on future communication or participation.