



**Enter Teams in all Age Groups**

## 1. Enter Teams in all Age Groups

Project	Role	Measurable
Appoint coaches with positive and supportive attitudes	Volunteer Coordinator	Club coaches qualified and leading by example
Instil positive values in all players	Junior Committee & Coaches	Positive behaviour and sportsmanship displayed by teams
Integrate juniors and seniors	Executive Committee	Senior players involved with junior teams and junior families attending senior games
Promote the history of the club to all new players and volunteers	FUGs Representative	New players and families familiar with the club's history

### Appoint coaches with positive and supportive attitudes

The club must attract and develop coaches that focus on their players and teams having fun, whilst developing their skills. No matter what age the player is, if they are not enjoying playing, they will not continue to be involved. The club has a responsibility to appoint and monitor coaches to ensure they are providing an enjoyable atmosphere that focuses on everyone being involved, developing their individual skills and improving the way they play together as a team. Coaches need to be provided with ongoing resources, such as accreditation courses; training workshops to learn new techniques; online applications they can access with examples of training drills; tip sheets they can use to learn how to overcome specific challenges; and constant reinforcement about creating a fun, supportive and developmental environment.

### Instil Positive Values in all Players

The club's junior team values will be built on being family friendly, social and supportive. Winning premierships will not be the focus, however, these will naturally come through players, volunteers and families having fun. People are more likely to remain in the club if they enjoy being part of it and respect how it is operated. The committee, coaches and managers will need to set a high behavioral example at training and games, through being punctual, presentable, welcoming and supportive of players, volunteers, officials and spectators.



### **Integrate juniors and seniors**

It's important for the club to create opportunities for junior and senior players and teams to participate in club activities together. Senior players can be junior coaches, managers or support staff; run specialised skill sessions for junior teams; attend junior games; or assist with junior training. Junior teams and players, particularly in the older age groups, can train with senior teams at different times of the year. Junior games can be organised to be played before and at half time at senior games to encourage juniors and their families to attend and spectate. Club social events can incorporate both juniors and seniors, whilst club apparel can reflect both aspects of the club. Integrating the juniors and seniors as much as possible will create a cohesive club, where members will know each other and the juniors will be more likely to continue playing with the club as a senior.

### **Promote the history of the club to all new players and volunteers**

The JCU Saints have a very long and proud history, including being founded by Dr Joe Baker (who the club's home ground is named after) a number of senior premierships and the saint painted on Castle Hill. This history needs to be communicated with all new players and volunteers so they feel part of the club and want to create new milestones.

