

MEMO 06 - 25

To: Metro and South Coast Clubs
From: Football Queensland
Subject: Update on U8 In-House MiniRoos Competitions and Sanctioning Process
Date: February 24, 2025

Dear Clubs,

We would like to take this opportunity to provide some important clarification regarding the hosting of 'in-house' U8 MiniRoos competitions for the 2025 season alongside the associated sanctioning process in place moving forward.

We are aware that some clubs previously delivering, in whole or in part, 'in-house' programs, have maintained an incorrect set-up for the U8 MiniRoos age group, typically due to the fixturing of games on an U6 and U7 MiniRoos field configuration.

Additionally, the application of incorrect rules from younger age groups has been experienced across the U8 age cohort, impacting the developmentally appropriate transitional skill acquisition experience for these players.

While we understand that making changes to field layouts and goal set-ups for a single age group can be challenging for some clubs, it is important to align and comply with the required age-related formats and rules to ensure the correct delivery of the MiniRoos program and the participants' positive football experience.

For reference, the official document outlining these guidelines can be found here: [MiniRoos Playing Formats and Rules](#).

The participant experience can also be significantly enhanced when players are able to compete against neighbouring clubs. Playing in a local 'club hub' environment offers valuable developmental opportunities, fosters a sense of community and is an experience that is often difficult to fully replicate in an 'in-house' competition structure.

As part of Football Queensland's ongoing commitment to creating a developmentally appropriate environment for players, we are transitioning from previously unstructured or blanket sanctioning of 'in-house' competitions for the U8 age group to 'local hub' U8 competitions in line with the U9 – U12 age groups.

This decision is driven by multiple factors, not limited to several key changes in the game's rules and formats which include adjustments to the number of players on the field, changes to field and goal sizes, the introduction of penalty areas and the enforcement of foul and misconduct rules, while ensuring every club and participant complies with Football Australia's National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

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Football Queensland understands that not every club has the same scale, size and capability and is committed to supporting clubs who, under specific conditions, will be able to seek 'conditional sanctioning' of in-house programs for the U8 age group.

Any approved clubs must demonstrate how they continually meet the required MiniRoos Playing Formats and Rules for the U8 age group alongside a clear rationale outlining how their in-house program will benefit both the club and participants.

Football Queensland strongly encourages any club seeking such sanctioning approval to provide a mixed offering of organised and in-house programs to participants, allowing choice of product and experience.

Clubs are also advised that sanctioning requirements still apply to in-house programs for MiniRoos players aged 3 – 7 years old, who must all be registered via Squadi.

We look forward to collaborating with clubs to deliver the best possible experience for young players and thank you for your continued support.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to get in touch via sanctions@footballqueensland.com.au

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