

## MEMO 17 - 24

**To:** FQ Academy League 1-4 Clubs  
**From:** Gabor Ganczer, GM – Football and State Technical Director  
**Subject:** 2025 Club Trial Information  
**Date:** July 5, 2024

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Dear Clubs

As the conclusion of another FQ Academy club assessment period draws nearer, Football Queensland wishes to reinforce the expected end of season protocol regarding talent identification and trials at FQ Academy League clubs.

As per previous years, clubs are reminded that compliance with junior player selection timelines is a requirement of the current FQ Academy Licence and upholding high ethical standards is an agreed mutual obligation between clubs.

Each year a number of advanced clubs use 'Talent ID' and 'Come & Try' clinics to encourage participants from other clubs to trial in preparation for the 2025 season.

If clubs attempt to use this method and conduct early trials or offer positions to players who have ongoing commitments at their current club, they will be asked to show cause, and club scores on Talent Identification protocols may be significantly lowered in the Advanced Club Assessment.

Clubs may provide information and EOI forms for external players, however physical trial and talent ID opportunities should not be extended unless the player's current club provides written consent.

FQ Academy League 1-4 players' commitments to their current clubs will conclude with the State of Origin Cup between September 27 and 29. Players are expected to honour their club commitments, and therefore no trial process should take place until the week commencing Monday, 7 October 2024 for Under 14 to Under 18 age groups (based on player age group for 2025 season).

As the season for younger age groups finishes earlier, FQ Academy (U9-U13 for 2025 season) trials are the **only** exception to this and can commence on Monday, 30 September 2024.

Providing a consistent and challenging environment is the most effective way to achieve long term development goals for athletes, therefore clubs are encouraged to prioritise the retention of players if both parties are satisfied. All players should be afforded the opportunity to consider their position at season's end, after they have honoured their commitment to their current club.

As FQ's club assessment process rewards high player retention rates, open squad positions should remain limited on teams where youth development is acknowledged to be a long-term process based on strong club values and good coaching services.

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It is also noted that there are examples of unethical practices where clubs charge a fee for talent identification. This practice further decreases the talent pool by setting a financial requirement and limiting opportunities for players to showcase their abilities and skills.

FQ Academy clubs are expected to set high standards, and Football Queensland remains committed to monitoring player movement and club changes to ensure these standards are being upheld.

End.