

## MEMO 18 - 23

**To:** FQ Academy League 1-4 Clubs  
**From:** Gabor Ganczer, GM – Football and State Technical Director  
**Subject:** 2024 Club Trial Information  
**Date:** July 13, 2023

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Dear Clubs

Football Queensland wishes to reinforce the expected protocol regarding talent identification and trials at FQ Academy League clubs.

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 appear to be using 'Talent ID' and 'Come & Try' clinics to encourage participants from other clubs to trial in preparation for the 2024 season.

If clubs 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 U13-U18 competitions will conclude with Grand Finals on Sunday, 15 October 2023. Players are expected to honour their commitments to their club and therefore no trial process should take place until week commencing Monday, 30 October 2023 in those age groups.

As the season for younger age groups finishes earlier, FQ Academy (U9-12) trials are an exception to this and can commence on Monday, 23 October 2023.

Providing a consistent and challenging environment is the most effective way to achieve long term development goals for athletes, therefore clubs are encouraged to retain 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.

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.