



Rahoon Newcastle GAA Player Playing Policy 2024

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the GAA 'Go Games' policy which is currently applicable to players U12, the GAA Code of Behaviour and the GAA Official Guide.

Rahoon Newcastle GAA Club is committed to the promotion of a positive environment which is facilitated through a programme of safe, guided practice, games and measured performance & / or competition to support development and retention of all players within our Club. In order to support this we have developed our Club Player Playing Policy.

Player Playing Policy:

1. This policy should be implemented by Lead Mentor/Managers communicating together and with parents of the child.
2. From the age of U7 our Club encourages players playing on their age, a players age grade is determined by the age they turn between January 1st and December 31st of that year.
3. In team selections for games, preference should be given to players who are 'on the age' - i.e. those who will be 'over-age' next year.
4. The Club allows subbing up where additional players are needed to make up a full team so that players on the age are afforded games, players should be brought up from the next age group below where available. 'Subbing-up' should not deprive players who are 'on the age' of a game.
5. Players can only be called up with the permission of the parents and this must be communicated to the parents by the Lead Mentor/Manager of the age group the player permanently plays for.
6. Players subbing up are expected to support their own age-group, this is to ensure all children are afforded the opportunity for games on their age. This is to be communicated to the parents and child by the Lead Mentor/Managers of the team the player/s play for.
7. In certain circumstances, following Executive review of the implementation of this policy with Lead Mentor/Managers, player/s may or may not be allowed to 'sub up' on a regular basis in any one year.

Team grading:

1. For age groups with multiple squads, a grading system will apply at the end of each season. (This does not apply to Go Games squads). This is to ensure that all players play at the appropriate level to support their development. It is expected that this will apply to all teams up to Minor.

This is a process that will be kept under review given players development level may change throughout the season. It should not prevent future player movements as player development levels are continuously assessed.

2. We may field a team of some players in the next age group up at a lower division. This is being implemented to retain the interest and to provide a competitive challenge for players.
3. All team gradings should be agreed and squads finalised by the 1st week of February each year by Lead Mentor / Managers and communicated to the Club Hurling & Camogie Secretaries.

Note: This policy is considered a live policy and continuous improvement should be applied.