

Loddon Valley Football Netball League Inc.

Overage Player Policy

- Players must be under 19 years of age on January 1 in the year they wish to compete as an over age player.
- **Nominated players must have played with the club in the previous season.**

Assessment Criteria

Any player nominated for overage status will be assessed in the areas outlined below. Factors to be taken into account include, but may not be limited to:

1. Ability to influence the game:
 - General Motor Skills
 - Coordination
 - Speed and Agility
 - General Football Skills
 - Marking
 - Kicking
 - Ball Handling
2. Ability to influence others:
 - Conduct
 - Plays in accordance with AFL Victoria Country, LVFNL & Club Codes of Conduct
 - Behaviour
 - Does not display an aggressive nature towards other players

- Clubs must apply in writing for exceptional circumstances to the LVFNL **at least two weeks prior to the start of the season** using the Overage Player Application form.
- Clubs can only play overage players if they do not have a full team of 22 juniors on the day and that only 2 overage players can play in any 1 game per team.
- All Overage players will be assessed by an independent panel as to their ability and if there is any doubt as to their ability being of a standard that may qualify them for overage status, then they will not be permitted to play in the Under 18 competition.
- This independent panel will be comprised of members from the LVFNL Board. This panel shall be empowered to co-opt appropriate persons to assist with an individual assessment if required.
- Each approved overage player will be continually monitored throughout the season and the independent panel may revoke any approval at any time during the current season.
- The independent panel's decision shall be final and only one application per player shall be permitted.
- Junior coaches cannot be involved in the independent assessment of one of their own players.
- Any approved overage player that is named as a player on a senior or reserves team sheet during the current season will have their approval to play in the under 18 competition automatically revoked.
- A club official of an opposing club can call for an overage player to be re-evaluated if they deem the player to be unsuitable for overage status. The player must then be re-assessed at the next club match by the Independent Panel if the player wishes to continue to qualify as an overage player.
- Following this re-assessment, the decision of this Independent Panel based on all available evidence shall be final and no further correspondence in this matter shall be considered.
- All overage players' names will be forwarded to all LVFNL clubs prior to the season's commencement and are ineligible for any league awards or representative opportunities.

