

AYR UNITED FOOTBALL ACADEMY



POLICY **SCHOOLS FOOTBALL**
FOR **VOLUNTEERS AND**
VERSION **STAFF**
 1.4

Created
Passed by Board of Management
Last Review date
Next Review date

2007
September 2013
September 2016
September 2017

UPDATES

Date:	19 th September 2013
Report to:	Board of Ayr United Football Academy
Author:	Donald Stewart
Purpose:	To agree annual review of policy
Agreement:	No changes
Rationale:	There have been no significant changes to school procedures
Date:	25 th September 2014
Report to:	Board of Ayr United Football Academy
Author:	Donald Stewart
Purpose:	To agree annual review of policy
Agreement:	No changes
Rationale:	There have been no significant changes to Schools Policy or advice nationally. There have been no requests from staff or volunteers for changes
Date:	14 th December 2015
Report to:	Board of Ayr United Football Academy
Author :	Stuart Galloway
Purpose:	To agree annual review of policy
Recommendation:	No changes required
Rationale:	There have been no significant changes to the Schools Policy or advice nationally. There have been no requests from staff or volunteers for changes
Date:	15 th September 2016
Report to:	Board of Ayr United Football Academy
Report from:	Donald C Stewart
Purpose:	To agree annual review of policy
Recommendation:	Changes as enclosed
Rationale:	Nationally the Children's Commissioner, Tam Baillie, the real grassroutes campaign organisation and the Scottish Schools Football Association has advocated, campaigned and finally got the SFA to change as follows. <u>Page 43 Annex 10 - Eligibility Issues – Amendment to Rule 2.1</u> "An Amateur Player Age Group 10-17 registered with a Club in full membership of the Scottish FA or in membership of an Affiliated Association may also play with his school team." <i>(Reason for Change – New wording of rule recognises the rights of a CAS Player and his right to freedom of choice to play with his school and school friends/mates should he choose)</i> AUFA have always been compliant but the following information shall now be added to the schools policy: - "Under SFA Annex 10, Eligibility Issues – Rule 2.1 An Amateur Player Age Group 10-17 registered with a Club in full membership of the Scottish FA or in membership of an Affiliated Association may also play with his school team. Any young player in Scotland who feels he is being denied or pressured into NOT representing his school should contact John Watson, national secretary 0141-620-4570. The Scottish FA have also introduced a Young Player's Wellbeing Panel – which has been established to hear and adjudicate upon registration issues between a Young Player, Player under the age of 18, or their parent/carer and the Player's Club."

OVERVIEW

This is the Schools Football policy statement of Ayr United Football Academy (The Academy).

Overall and final responsibility for Schools Football participation lies with the Board of Management of The Academy, with day to day responsibility for ensuring this policy is put into practice lying with the Director of Football, staff and volunteers of the Academy as appropriate.

POLICY DETAIL

This document lays out The Academy's policy covering the participation of its youth players in organised school football.

The Academy would prefer that its players would not participate in schools football as it is felt that this may result in over exertion and a potential to attract injuries which may hamper the progress of the player in his pursuit of a career at the top level of football.

The Academy invests heavily in providing training and playing regimes that demand a high level of commitment. The training schedule consists of a minimum of two nights training and a one night Sports Science session per week, in addition to a match played in the SFA's Youth Initiative League. This schedule imposes heavy demands on players and The Academy would prefer that players restrict themselves to The Academy's training and playing schedule.

However, it should be noted that this is a preference and that The Academy, nor any of its staff or volunteers, will not, in any way, attempt to prevent a player from playing for his school team. Nor will The Academy or any of its staff or volunteers, in any way discriminate against any player who chooses to play for his school team.

The Academy will not allow any player to take part in schools football, however, where that player is currently undergoing a programme of physiotherapy or medical treatment, until the doctor or physiotherapist has approved the player's return to training and playing.

The Academy will expect a player to represent the Academy in preference to his school team, where fixtures take place on the same day.

UNDER SFA ANNEX 10, ELIGIBILITY ISSUES – RULE 2.1

An Amateur Player Age Group 10-17 registered with a Club in full membership of the Scottish FA or in membership of an Affiliated Association may also play with his school team.

Any young player in Scotland who feels he is being denied or pressured into NOT representing his school should contact John Watson, national secretary 0141-620-4570.

The Scottish FA have also introduced a Young Player's Wellbeing Panel – which has been established to hear and adjudicate upon registration issues between a Young Player, Player under the age of 18, or their parent/carer and the Player's Club.