FRANKSTON & DISTRICT JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FDJFL Interleague & Academy Program
In Partnership with St Kilda Football Club

Player & Coach Selection Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear, transparent and merit-based framework for the selection of players and coaches within the FDJFL Interleague & Academy Program.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all players seeking selection, all coaches and assistant coaches, and all selectors, talent identification staff and administrators involved in the FDJFL Interleague & Academy Program.

3. Guiding Principles

Selection processes are guided by merit-based selection, transparency, consistency, player development focus, inclusivity and wellbeing, and conflict of interest management. Selection decisions are made independently of any commercial, sponsorship or partnership arrangements and are based solely on merit, eligibility, and player development considerations.

4. Player Selection Framework

Players may be identified and selected through club nominations, talent identification and observation, trials and training performance, and representative match performance. Participation in the St Kilda NGA is not a prerequisite for FDJFL Interleague or Academy selection.

5. Coach Selection Framework

Coaches are appointed through expressions of interest, interview and assessment, verification of coaching accreditation, and alignment with FDJFL development philosophy. Parent coaching of own-age teams is avoided where possible and may only be approved at FDJFL discretion.

6. Selection Panels

Selection panels may include representatives from FDJFL, St Kilda Football Club, and AFL South East. All panel members must declare actual or perceived conflicts of interest, act impartially, and maintain confidentiality.

6.1 Role of St Kilda Football Club

St Kilda Football Club participates as a development and talent pathway partner, providing coaching support and talent identification input. While St Kilda representatives may provide recommendations, final selection authority rests solely with the FDJFL. St Kilda Football Club does not hold decision-making authority for selection outcomes.

7. Appeals & Review

Selection decisions are final. The FDJFL may review a selection decision only where a procedural error is identified or where new, material information becomes available. Appeals based solely on disagreement with outcomes will not be considered.

8. Governance & Oversight

Final authority for all selection decisions rests with the FDJFL. This policy operates alongside the FDJFL Interleague & Academy Code of Conduct (Policy 001) and Discipline & Behaviour Management Policy (Policy 003, once adopted). Selection records are retained for governance and audit purposes.

APPENDIX A

By-Laws Alignment, Eligibility & Selection Clarification

FDJFL Player & Coach Selection Policy
Policy Number: FDJFL-POL-INT-SEL-002
Effective Date: 19 December 2025

A1. Alignment with AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws

This Policy operates in conjunction with the AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws (as amended from time to time). Eligibility requirements prescribed under those By-Laws must be satisfied before selection occurs. This Policy governs how selection decisions are made for FDJFL Interleague & Pathways teams once eligibility has been confirmed. Nothing in this Policy overrides or replaces AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws.

A2. Eligibility vs Selection – Clarification

Eligibility and selection are separate concepts. Eligibility determines whether a player may be considered for selection and is governed by AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws, including transfer status, dispensation requirements, and age or registration criteria. A player who does not meet eligibility requirements cannot be selected regardless of performance. Selection determines which eligible players are chosen and is merit-based, informed by assessment, performance and suitability.

A3. Standard Eligibility Statement (Mandatory Use)

Selection within the FDJFL Interleague & Pathways Program is merit-based and subject to eligibility requirements prescribed under the AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws, including transfer and dispensation provisions.

A4. Authority and Roles – Interleague & Pathways Programs

FDJFL is the final decision-making authority for player and coach selection and appoints selection panels. AFL South East provides administration and compliance oversight but does not make selection decisions. St Kilda Football Club provides technical and NGA alignment support but does not hold selection authority.

A5. Parent & Club Explanation (Plain-English Guidance)

Eligibility determines whether a player can be considered. Selection determines who is chosen from eligible players. A player may be eligible but not selected, or may be ineligible despite strong performance.

A6. Status of this Appendix

This Appendix is explanatory in nature, does not amend the Policy, and forms part of the governance record supporting Policy FDJFL-POL-INT-SEL-002.

Board Policy Register Entry

Policy Name	FDJFL Player & Coach Selection Policy
Policy Number	FDJFL-POL-INT-SEL-002
Version	1.0 (Approved)
Approved By	FDJFL Board
Approval Date	18 November 2026
Effective Date	18 November 2026
Review Cycle	Annual
Related Documents	FDJFL Interleague & Academy Code of Conduct (Policy 001) AFL South East Junior Competition By-Laws FDJFL–St Kilda Football Club Partnership Agreement
Status	Active