

**LKSA Policy**

**Grassroots Player Evaluation**

**For U7-U12 Players Wishing to Play at an Older Age Group**

**Policy**

Grassroots players are expected to play with their own age group, however LKSA will support a player playing with an older age group if the move up to the older age group clearly benefits the player. No player will move up [2] age groups.

To play with an older age group, the player must demonstrate an ability to excel in all four grassroots competencies.

**Goal of Policy**

* To benefit the player, not the parents, an individual team, or the club.
* To provide objective evaluations completed by a group designated by the LKSA Board.
* To reinforce the OS guidelines and bring consistency across the District.

**Policy Administration**

Upon receipt of a written request to evaluate a player from a club, the district Technical Director shall initiate the Process for Player Evaluation.

Players will be evaluated by the Assessment Committee - a group of three designates appointed by the LKSA Board. Results of the evaluation by the designated group will be final.

A $30.00 fee per session will be levied for the evaluation. The fee shall be paid before the evaluation commences.

The policy applies to competitive players and not house leagues within a club.

**Process of Player Evaluation**

Upon receipt of a written request to evaluate a player, the District Technical Director shall

* Contact the club, acknowledge receipt of the request and remind the club of the process; specifically ensure the internal club process has been followed to request an evaluation of a player
* The club shall submit supporting paperwork including club assessments to LKSA. A discussion with District Technical Director or designate, the Club representative and team coach to establish a history on the player and overall information on their performance and behaviour. If this discussion proves to be positive and an agreement is reached that the player should be considered for evaluation to play with an older age group, then the remaining steps should be followed. If no agreement is reached, the process ends.
* A discussion with the District Technical Director or designate, player and his or her parents/guardian will take place. This formal discussion will be documented. The District Technical Director or designate should inform the player and parents/guardian of the information that is contained within the evaluation process and the challenges that the player may face when playing with older players.
* In the discussion the District Technical Director or designate shall stress, it is important that no pressure is put on the young player to play with the older team. The player must be allowed the choice to stay with their own age group. After establishing the request meets all requirements of the process, the club representative, parents, player (optional) and District Technical Director or designate signatures must be on the OS Grassroots player evaluation form.
* The District evaluation process will follow the OS and LKSA policies. The OS Grassroots player evaluation forms will be used. The Assessment Committee will appraise the player’s evaluation and counter sign the Grassroots player evaluation form if they agree. The assessment shall not occur until the $30.00 administration fee has been received by the District.
* The District association will retain original copies of all documentation including the OS Grassroots player evaluation form for 3 years. Approval is valid for one outdoor playing season only.
* A copy of the approved OS Grassroots player evaluation form must be submitted with the Team Roster and Player Book to the Registrar for processing.

The Assessment committee shall use the OS Grassroots player evaluation form and will follow OS protocols, as the OS allows players to be approved to play in an older age group (limited to one age group), provided they meet all the following criteria:

Intellectually Gifted

* The player must have the intellectual ability to cope/handle the increased mental requirements to play with an older age team.

Technically advanced

* The player must have the technical ability to cope/handle playing in the advanced age group. Technically they may be more appropriately chal­lenged by playing with older players.

Emotionally and Socially Advanced

* Must have the social ability to cope/handle interaction with older players, referees and coaches.

Physically/Athletically Developed

* Players must have the physical ability to compete or play with the older age players.

It is important for all (including the Assessment Committee) to remember that player’s must have advanced qualities in all areas mentioned above to play in an older age group. Players must feel comfortable to be successful in the new environment with older team mates. Simply being skilled in one or two areas and then being placed in an inappropriate challenging environment will not lead to further development for the player and could be detrimental.

The links below are to be used for player assessment.

[Fast\_Tracking\_Player\_Development\_-\_U7-U8\_Print\_v2.pdf (sportngin.com)](https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0112/8200/Fast_Tracking_Player_Development_-_U7-U8_Print_v2.pdf)

[Fast\_Tracking\_Player\_Development\_-\_U9-U11\_Print\_V2.pdf (sportngin.com)](https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0112/8203/Fast_Tracking_Player_Development_-_U9-U11_Print_V2.pdf)

[Fast\_Tracking\_Player\_Development\_-\_U12\_Print\_v2.pdf (sportngin.com)](https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0112/8204/Fast_Tracking_Player_Development_-_U12_Print_v2.pdf)