



Immanuel Lutheran College *Sport:*

Team Selection and Playing Time Guidelines

Purpose and Vision

At Immanuel Lutheran College, our priority is to create a sporting environment that fosters joy, connection, engagement, and learning. Our goal is for all players to love the game and be motivated to return each season. This guideline outlines the principles guiding team selection and playing time to ensure fairness and developmental opportunities for all participants, while balancing the realities of competition.

General Guidelines for Immanuel Sport

- 1. Development Over Results:** The focus is on nurturing skills, building confidence, and fostering a love for the game, rather than solely emphasizing game-day results.
- 2. Effort and Commitment:** Hard work, dedication in training, and positive performance behaviours influence selection and playing time in all our competitions.
- 3. Role-Specific Contributions:** As players advance, the emphasis shifts to fulfilling specific team roles, aligning with the competitive nature of higher grades.

Grade 7 & 8

- **Focus:** Equal playing time and player development.
- **Guidelines:**
 - Coaches will endeavour to allocate equal playing time across games, with flexibility to adjust based on the opposition's skill level and players' developmental needs.
 - Hard work, effort, and commitment during training and games will be rewarded with increased opportunities.
 - Players will be exposed to various roles and responsibilities to broaden their skills and game understanding.

NOTE: Junior players selected for finals or external tournaments aimed at fostering future opportunities, must earn their game time through regular training attendance, application, and proficiency.

Grade 9 & 10

- **Focus:** Role specialisation and team contributions.
- **Guidelines:**
 - While equal playing time is less emphasized, all players will still contribute meaningfully to their team's efforts.
 - Coaches will develop players' role-specific skills, such as honing positional play or impacting the game strategically as substitutes.
 - Effort, training commitment, and teamwork remain critical factors in determining selection and game time.

NOTE: Teams participating in higher divisions or extension tournaments will adopt a more competitive focus. Game time will be allocated accordingly to support best team performance and is allocated at the discretion of the coach.

Grade 11 & 12

- **Focus:** Competitive performance and advanced development.
- **Guidelines:**
 - Teams will prioritize competitiveness, especially in higher divisions, while social teams may provide more balanced playing time for enjoyment and development.
 - Players will have defined roles that contribute to the team's overall strategy and success.
 - Equal playing time is no longer a priority; instead, time on the field or court reflects the demands of the game and the contributions of each player.
 - Coaches remain committed to developing players' abilities and addressing deficiencies to prepare them for post-school sporting opportunities.

NOTE: Teams in a higher division or involved in an external or extension tournament will take a more competitive approach, and gametime will reflect this. The allocation of game time is at the discretion of the coach.

Implementation and Communication

- 1. Parental Engagement:** Parents will be informed of this guideline at the beginning of each year to ensure clear expectations
- 2. Player Understanding:** Players will be educated on the importance of effort, commitment, and role specialization in contributing to team success.
- 3. Ongoing Evaluation:** The guideline will be regularly reviewed to ensure it aligns with the college's mission and the evolving needs of our sports program.

By adhering to these principles, Immanuel Sport seeks to create a balanced and rewarding sporting experience for all participants. Together, we aim to nurture a lifelong love of sport, being active and teamwork.

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