

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the allowance of playing members aged 6 through to 11 (boys) and 6 through to 12 (girls) who are overage for the competition which they wish to play.
- 1.2 For the sake of clarity, an example is a 10-year-old boy who wishes to play in the Under 9 competition.

**2. Scope**

- 2.1 The policy applies to all HVFA clubs, players, club and team officials, coaches, volunteers, staff, members and participants.

**3. Application**

- 3.1 Requests may only be made to play one (1) year younger from the players natural age group.
- 3.2 Requests for an exemption to allow overaged players will be considered for the following age groups only:
  - a) Under 5 and Under 5 Girls
  - b) Under 6 and Under 6 Girls
  - c) Under 7 and Under 7 Girls
  - d) Under 8 and Under 8 Girls
  - e) Under 9 and Under 9 Girls
  - f) Under 10 and Under 10 Girls
  - g) Under 11 Girls
- 3.3 Consideration will be provided on a case-by-case basis. Examples of consideration are:
  - a) To create a team in a younger age group where the club cannot field a team in an older age group; or
  - b) Medically recommended; or
  - c) Allowing a player to compete in competition consisting of players who have similar strength, stamina and/or physique of the player requesting exemption; or
  - d) To enhance the game of football.
- 3.4 HVFA reserves the right to move a player who has been granted an exemption up into their natural age group at any time.

**4. Requests and Approvals**

- 4.1 Prior to any request, clubs who are seeking an exemption must educate the player, parents and/or guardians on the limitations of this policy especially surrounding the restrictions on age groups and HVFA's right to move a player into their natural age group.
- 4.2 Clubs may request exemptions to HVFA through their Secretary via email with any attached documentation to allow for an informed decision.
- 4.3 Clubs must provide any further information as directed by HVFA.
- 4.4 Approval is granted only via the HVFA General Manager.