



**New Zealand
Football**

Talent Development Programme

2023 Youth League and National Youth
League Match Day Standards



To align match day standards for the top regional youth competitions involving TDP accredited clubs.

PURPOSE

To elevate match day standards in the 'top' youth league in each federation involving TDP accredited clubs and follow best practice recommendations to provide all stakeholders with the best experience possible.

NZF Strategic Direction

'Inspiring Performances on The Global Stage'

Goal

'A clear talent pathway for players, coaches and referees'

Actions

'Focus on implementing a system wide talent development approach'

'Design and deliver sustainable national competitions to expose a large pool of players to a high level of competitive football'

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During 2022 aligned Match Day Standards across all leagues involving TDP accredited clubs was introduced for the first time. At the culmination of the 2022 season all TDP accredited clubs were invited to complete a survey based on their experiences using the match day standards.

Benefits afforded to TDP accredited clubs

- An accredited TDP club receives automatic entry into the top league in all age groups offered each session
- TDP clubs in mixed and girls only football receive automatic entry into the National Youth Development League
- TDP accredited clubs can play their players in any older age group within their TDP programme without the need to apply for dispensation. Clubs can play a maximum of 3 players down one

age year in any one game. Goal keepers as a specialist position can play down 2 age years if necessary.

- Clubs will have access provided to a Hudl league exchange to upload/download games for development purposes.

2023 PROPOSAL

Using TDP clubs survey feedback along with NZF/Federation observations the below are the updated match day standards for 2023.

Changes from 2022

- Aligned to our National Leagues, teams will have 3 substitute windows available to them to use at any time (substitutions can also be made at halftime which doesn't count as a window)
- The Hudl portal will alter to become a league exchange which should make it easier for clubs to navigate and find the relevant game

Minimum Match Day Standards

Standards to be implemented for the 2023 season in youth leagues that involve TDP accredited clubs

- All games must take place on a pitch that is roped off to keep spectators at least 2m back from the pitch or have permanent boarding's
- The home team will film the game from a minimum height of 3m and provide a copy for the away team within 48 hours of the game ending. This is for U14/U15 age group upwards. Clubs/federations will have access provided by NZF to an improved Hudl league exchange to upload/download games.

It is acknowledged some games are moved to an alternative venue with a very short notice period, these games could be held without some match day standards being achieved so some discretion will be afforded to the home club in such circumstances.

- A maximum of 7 substitutes allowed



- Teams have 3 substitute windows to use at any point during the game. Rolling subs will be used. Any substitution made due to injury will be deemed to have used a substitute window.
- If all 3 windows have been used and the GK is injured they can be replaced using a fourth window as this is a specialist position.
- Playing squads and coaches must be entered into the Comet catalogue
- A club can only enter 1 team into the top youth league in mixed or girls only football
- Non -TDP accredited teams playing in the top youth league, must have a Head Coach who holds an active NZF/OFC C License or international equivalent
- Non – TDP accredited teams playing in the top youth league must comply with the homegrown player rule of 65%. Clubs submit their age group squad up to a maximum of 22 players, that proves they have a minimum of 65% of the squad being homegrown.
**Home grown players are players that have been registered with the club or been part of the clubs NZF Skills Centre Programme for 2 or more consecutive seasons.*
- The home team must provide an appointed match co-ordinator
- The home team must provide and nominate a designated first aid qualified person

2022 Proposal

- The home team must provide a covered area and seating for a minimum of 7 substitutes/team officials for both home and away teams.

It is recommended that home clubs provide covered seating for both sets of players and officials, this isn't included in the match day standards due to some venues not being logistically able to accommodate this.

2022 Proposal

- A home and away dressing room must be provided for teams to use pre-game, halftime and post game. This must be close enough to the field of play to allow teams to use the dressing room at half time.

It is recommended that home clubs provide dressing rooms pregame, halftime and post-game for both sets of players and officials, this isn't included in the match day standards due to some venues not being logistically able to accommodate this.



**New Zealand
Football**

Team Reporting

In instances of the home team not achieving the agreed match day standards the visiting team are encouraged to notify the Competitions Manager of their local federation to follow up with the home club and facilitate an improvement.

All clubs/federations are being trusted to follow and implement all match day standards to provide the players with the best game day experience possible without the need for any sanctions.