



## **Donvale Dunkers - Equal Court Time Policy**

### **Introduction**

The policy at Donvale Dunkers is equal time on the court for every player irrespective of the players experience and skills. This policy ensures that developing players do not get left out in favour of more experienced players. If inexperienced players are left out they miss the opportunity to gain skills and develop.

It is recognised that management of the bench is a difficult task to be undertaken by volunteer coaches and as such parents and players are encouraged to be supportive of decisions even if they feel they received less than equal time. It is the normal practice that game time will balance out over a season.

### **Variation to equal time during tight games**

At the Dunkers winning is not everything. The overriding objective of the club is that we all have fun and develop skills. It is, however, recognised that winning and being competitive is one part of having fun. As such coaches will have discretion in the final 3 minutes of a game as follows:-

1. Equal court time is applied up until the final 3 minutes of the game resulting in 37 minutes of game time shared equally.
2. If the team is in a significantly winning position or unable to win at that 37 minute mark coaches have discretion to give more time to their developing players and attempt to get them scoring and play opportunities.
3. If the team is in a position where the coach considers they can still win the game at the 37 minute mark they have discretion to play their most experienced players during this last 3 minute period in an attempt to win the game.

Dunkers considers that application of this rule fairly over the season will result in an overall even game time for all players.