



Brooklyn FC: Statement of Principles

1. All managers and committee members are volunteers, they give up significant amounts of their free time to make Brooklyn FC a success. Please support them as much as you can. Brooklyn volunteers all agree to abide by the FA Respect Code of Conduct and the club's other policies, which can all be found on the website at www.brooklynfootballclub.co.uk/handbook
2. Brooklyn FC expects parents to assist the club's activities and also to act in a manner that reflects well on the club at all times. This includes:
 - Reading and abiding by the FA Respect Code of Conduct and the club's policies in the Handbook (details as above), and also requiring your child to do the same.
 - Encouraging all children in a positive way, both Brooklyn players and those from other teams
 - Remaining off the 3G pitches during training and matches
 - Helping to set up and clear away equipment on match days
 - Supporting as much as possible when the club seeks volunteers for events such as the annual pre-season tournament in August/September. These events help to keep membership fees low
3. With respect to training and matches, Brooklyn FC will follow the guidelines laid out below:
 - *At all age groups, the objective is to have a minimum of one Level 1 qualified Coach and one Assistant per team*
 - *Where the player numbers outlined below are exceeded, Brooklyn FC will endeavour to create additional team(s) providing sufficient resources are available. In particular, constraints on coaches and/or pitch time may not allow this*
 - *Girls age groups follow the same guidelines, with the caveat that depending on player numbers, the club may not be able to offer teams at all age groups and will therefore have to be more flexible about creating teams and in appropriate circumstances offering training-only membership*
 - *As a growing club, we do expect that new players will be interested in joining the club. This may impact the positions of existing players within an age group, we will endeavour to maximise the opportunities and minimise the disruption for all involved*
 - *Any deviations from these guidelines will be discussed by the club's management committee and recorded in writing*

Development age groups (U7-U10)

- **Mixed-ability teams**, with an objective of having no more than 8 players per team for 5-a-side age groups and no more than 10 players per team for 7-a-side age groups
- **All players should receive equal match time over the course of a season.** Brooklyn FC may offer a training-only membership if player numbers make this difficult to achieve

U11

- **Transition towards competitive football.** Teams will move towards A and B classification by the second half of season
- Objective of having no more than 13 players per team for 9-a-side (10 for 7-a-side)
- **All players should receive approximately equal match time over the course of a season.** Brooklyn FC may offer a training-only membership if player numbers make this difficult to achieve

U12 upwards

- **Fully competitive football.** Managers will typically select a squad of no more than 14-15 players for matchdays. Squads will be reviewed periodically, giving any players outside the matchday squad an incentive to progress
- **Players should receive fair match time reflecting their contribution and commitment.** As a guideline we anticipate any player included in a matchday squad to receive a minimum of 50% match time on average
- Brooklyn FC will offer training-only membership for players attending training but not regularly included in matchday squads

4. If you have questions or concerns during the season please raise these in the first instance with a team manager. The club Welfare Officers are also available if you have questions that cannot be addressed by the manager, their contact details are on the website at www.brooklynfootballclub.co.uk/welfare