Procedure: Own your Jumper Program

Initiated: October 2016

Commenced: Season 2017

Applies to: Vermont Junior Football Club Players U8 – U17.5

Purpose:

The purpose of the Vermont Junior Football Club – Own Your Own Jumper Program (BYO Program) was to originally create a historical link between the Vermont Junior Football Club and the Vermont Senior Football Club for those generation players that were following in their family legacy with the Club. It gave them the opportunity to continue to wear the "Family" number that was worn by the Senior Club Player in the Firsts Team, for their own playing history within the junior club.

It is a significant event, when a Vermont Junior player makes it all the way through the junior ranks and then to be selected by the Senior Club to play in the Firsts, so it is one way we honour the success of those club players.

This also tied into the Club Icon program for naming and mentoring U8 and U9 Age Groups. A Club Icon is bestowed by the club on a Vermont Junior Football club player who goes on to represent the Vermont First Senior Club team.

A secondary purpose, was to then give all other players the opportunity to secure a playing number that would follow with them through their junior playing career. To enable to the program to work fairly and without emotional judgement, rules were developed to cover scenarios of duplication.

These rules are outline below:

General Outline

- Players enter the program via way of a BYO Program membership fee.
- The membership fee enables the player to secure their preferred Jumper Playing number for their Junior Playing Career.
- Players who sign up for the program do so on the basis that they are in full agreement and understanding of the Number allocation process and all other relevant rules.
- The membership fee is a one off payment to enter the program and includes one (1) free Jumper.
- Players can specify their size and sleeve length for their Jumper.
- Players can also request the playing number they would like to have on their jumper – subject to the rules outlined.
- As the membership fee is a one off payment to enter the program, if a player wishes to purchase a new jumper – for example when they outgrow or lose their jumper, the

player can re-purchase a jumper at current costs. The number they originally were granted, will continued to be associated with their re-purchase.

- Once a player enters the program, it will be assumed he/she is continuing for the following season. However, a confirmation email will be sent to all existing players in the program, prior to commencement of the program for the following season, as a courtesy.

Process – Existing Entrants

- Once a player enters the program, it will be assumed he/she is continuing for the following season.
- Each Year existing entrants will be assumed to move up an age group and their allocated numbers will move them
- An email will be sent to all players by the end of the year of the current season, as a courtesy email, confirming that they are still registered for the program, and that they will be wearing their jumper for the next season and continuing with the program.
- Only players requiring action need to respond.
- If a YES continuing player does not need another jumper (replacement or new size), no further payment or action is required and they continue in the program for the following season.
- If a YES continuing player has outgrown their original jumper purchase, they can re-purchase a new sized jumper at the current cost, and maintain their allocated number (see sibling note below)
- If a player decides NOT TO PLAY in the following season, they will essentially forfeit their jumper number, and their allocated number will return back to the jumper number pool. The jumper however is theirs to keep.

  NOTE: If they decide to re-join as a player in future years, they will only be able to use their pre-purchased jumper if that number has not been allocated to another player in the interim years.

- If a player outgrows their original jumper size purchase, BUT they no longer wish to partake in the program, they can retain their jumper (eg: for sentimental reasons) BUT will be allocated a club owned jumper with random number allocation for the season and beyond. Their original allocated number will go back into the number pool and they will not be able to wear it in future seasons, should they wish to join back into the program.

- Siblings - In the event a player outgrows their jumper size purchased, but wants to retain it for a sibling in another age group – the following scenarios apply:

  1. If the other sibling is ALREADY registered in the BYO program under the exact same number then the jumper can be retained for the alternative sibling, and only one sibling needs to purchase another jumper at current cost, or retire out of the program (ie U17.5 player)

2. If the other sibling is NOT registered in the program, the other sibling needs to register and pay the Membership registration fee for their first year. No guarantee can be made that they will secure the same number due to number conflicts of other registrants. – See General Process New Entrants – Number Allocation.
    - If the 2nd sibling is successful in securing the same number, then condition 1 can apply (and either sibling can receive the new jumper size)
    - If the 2nd sibling is NOT successful in securing the same number, then the jumper can be retained (for sentimental reasons only) but NOT worn by another player.

General Process – New Entrants

- Players will register their interest in the program by paying the Membership fee, known as the BYO Jumper Program fee.
- Upon registering they will select their:
    1. Sleeve Length
    2. Size
    3. 3 Preferred Playing Numbers
- Any playing numbers already allocated to entrants in the season prior will be blocked from registration.
- Players will nominate their 1st preference up to a further 2 preferences of their playing numbers, giving them a total of 3 preferred numbers.
- Players nominate these numbers on the understanding that the committee will try and accommodate all 1st requests, but in the event that duplication occurs where two players want the same number within the SAME AGE GROUP, numbers will be allocated according to the Number Allocation process (set out below.)
- A player will be notified via email of their secured playing number.
- No refunds can be issued once the number allocation has occurred, as numbered jumpers will be ordered immediately on that basis.
- Jumpers will be produced and presented to players at the Jumper Presentation night.

Registration

- The Own your Own Jumper Program will be open to all players for the upcoming season.
- All registrations are to be received before the 15th December.
- All registered are to be made on line via https://www.vermontfc.com.au/product/byo-playing-jumper/
- No handwritten or verbal registrations will be accepted.
- Order of registration bears no weighting on the number allocation. Ie someone who registers on the 24th October gains no advantage over someone who registers on the 15th December.
- Any late registrations received post 15th December, will not be guaranteed a jumper for arrival prior to season commencement, and may be deferred. This is due to minimum production runs required to produce the jumpers.

- Any late registrations, will be held for a possible 2nd allocation process. There is no guarantee that the 2nd allocation process will proceed. Any players that fall into this category will be contacted to determine their options.

Number Allocation:

- Numbers will be allocated in the following manner:
    1. Numbers will be issued between 1 – 99 per age group
    2. New registrations will not cause duplication within any age group
    3. Any new registrations joining from U15 age group and above, will not cause duplications within their own age group, or allowing for the age group above or below. This is due to the combining of age groups From U16, U17 and U17.5.
    4. For each age group, the committee will review all 1st preference numbers.
    5. Where only one player has requested a number, and it does not cause duplication as per rule 2 or 3, these numbers will be granted
    6. Where 2 or more players have requested the same number in the same age group, the following will be considered in order of a) to c), to ascertain if 1st Preference can be allocated to the player based on:
        a) Where there is a family historical significance, being defined as a family member who played under the requested number in the Seniors for Vermont Football Club, such claims will be verified where required. If this does not apply, OR both players meet condition a), condition b) will be considered next.
        b) Where there are two or more siblings requesting the same number as they wish to start a family significance. If this does not apply, OR both players meet condition b), then condition c) will be the default.
        c) If Condition a) or b) cannot determine preference, a random ballot will occur where any players requesting the same number as their first choice will go into a hat and the first player drawn will be awarded that number.
    7. Any player who misses out on their first preference, will go back into the pool, with their 2nd preference now deemed as their first preference, and the above steps repeated.
    8. The ballot process will continue until an outcome can be achieved.
    9. If a number has already been purchased and secured under the Own your Own Jumper Program from a previous season, that number will NOT be available for future registrations, until such time that that the number is retired.
    10. NOTE: SIBLING PREFERENCE will become harder to accommodate as more players register and filter up through the age groups. Entering the program from U8 is the best way to achieve a SIBLING preference priority selection.

Teams with Two Age Groups - (ie U15 progression to U16, U17 or U17.5)

- When a player moves into a team where there are two age groups combining (eg Boys move from U15s to U17s, 2nd year players in U17.5, girls from U12s to U14s), a situation may arise where two pre-registered players have the same number and are selected to play in the same team.

- In this event, the older 2nd Year Player, will take priority due to it being their final Year in the age group. The younger 1st Year player, will be required to play under another number for that year.
- The VJFC will ensure a sufficient stock pool of club owned jumpers are available to effected players.
- When the current 1st Year player progresses to be a 2nd year player, they will return to wearing their BYO jumper number.
- In the event the two players are within the combined age group, but are playing in different teams within that age group, then both players can wear their BYO jumper.

- Players Who Play Up or Return to correct playing age group.
  - If a player decides to play up an age group, after they have registered in the program, there is no guarantee their jumper number will be retained for the new age group. The original age group they were in, upon initial registration is deemed to be their age group, and each year that age group rolls up one year. In the event their decision to play up an age group level causes a clash with the age group above, the player playing in their correct age group, takes precedence to wear the jumper number. The VJFC will ensure a sufficient stock pool of club owned jumpers are available to the effected players.

  - If a player decides to return to his correct age group, after they have registered in the program, there is no guarantee their jumper number will be retained for the new age group. The original age group they were in, upon initial registration is deemed to be their age group, and each year that age group rolls up one year. In the event their decision to return to their correct age group level causes a clash with the age group below, the player who was already playing in their correct age group, takes precedence to wear the jumper number. The VJFC will ensure a sufficient stock pool of club owned jumpers are available to the effected players.

Maintenance

- A Database will be maintained listing all players by age group and the number they are allocated.
- Every Year those players will move up an age group and their allocated numbers will move them
- An email will be sent to all players on the annually, prior to the next playing season commencing, requesting confirmation that they will be wearing their jumper for the next season and continuing with the program
- Any administration issues will be maintained by the Jumper Coordination Team
- Any player concerns can be directed first to their team manager, who will then address with the Jumper Coordination team
- Any decisions or outcomes that result in a dispute situation, will be addressed by the Executive Committee. Any decision made by the Exec Committee will be deemed final with no further discussion.