



Team Split Policy

Historically within Little Down Juniors we have assessed the subject of team splitting on a case-by-case basis and we have not made public the reasons which are taken into consideration when decisions are made in this area.

As we did not have any formalised process in place we did not feel that we had sufficient grounds to split any teams in the 2018/2019 season, since then our next two seasons were greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and so again, we feel that we do not have sufficient grounds to split any teams for the upcoming 2021/2022 season.

As the ethos of LDJ is to provide a football club open to all abilities, we do still feel that the act of team splitting is necessary in certain circumstances to keep the leagues balanced so at the beginning of the season each team has an equal opportunity to succeed in the league.

With this in mind our team splitting policy came into effect from 1st September 2019.

To maintain a fair and open league going into the next season when we approach the end of the current season, teams will be notified if their team is under consideration for splitting by the beginning of re-enrolment for the new season.

Each potential team that is considered for splitting will be assessed by the LDJ team including the Match Day Supervisor and the age group coordinator. It will be scrutinised on an individual basis and effecting factors are areas such as:

- Final league position
- Number of teams in the league
- Points differences between each team in the league
- Cup competition result
- Number of high scoring games within the season
- Number of team members re-enrolling for the next season.

Team splitting is only considered if 6 or more players from the current team are continuing in the next season. 5 or less signing up for the next season could remain together.

In previous years teams have been able to remain together if they move up an extra age group. This option is still available providing team members will only play one year group ahead of the age.

As every team splitting situation is unique we reserve the right to consider other factors not listed above in our decision making process. This policy is subject to update or change as we see fit.

This policy has been written and put in place out of fairness to all children who participate in LDJ and focussing on our motto:

‘The Game First, The Result Second’

Should you have any questions regarding this information or require further clarification on any points, please speak to one of the Little Down Juniors Team or email littledownjuniors@bhlive.org.uk