



NEW ENGLAND

PLAYING UP POLICY



Consistent with the **NE Surf** mission statement of “creating best of the best experiences and opportunities for our players” , we will always keep a player’s development as the most important element of our training program.

“Playing up”, is when a player is placed in an older age bracket to enhance their development. This decision is based solely on the best interests of the player. A player has to be physically, psychologically, technically and tactically able to make this step and the final decision to “play a player up”, will always be taken by the Directors of Coaching.



Considerations for playing in an older age group:

- Player must rate in the top half of the top team's roster in the older age group.
- Coaches from the player's actual age level, and from the older age group in consideration, must agree that the move is best for the player and obtain the approval of the director of coaching.
- There is no risk to the player physically, socially or psychologically by playing up.
- As an option, a player may be invited to train and play with an older age group for a period of time to gauge if a permanent move would be in the player's best interests.



*Players and parents cannot request to “play up”.

“Playing up” one year does not necessarily mean that it will automatically happen the next. The decision will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Ultimately, we wish to see all of our players challenged to reach their full potential. If we feel that a player playing in an older age group over a protracted period of time will achieve this, then we will implement the switch but this will not be the norm.