



DONACARNEY CELTIC F.C.

Annual Team Trials Information and Guidelines for Coaches

- It is the club's policy to hold open trials on an annual basis. These trials apply to **all** teams playing or, about to start playing eleven a side football. The purpose of these trials is to assess and allocate players to a team based on their ability, strengths and stage of development, thus maximising each player's playing time and enjoyment of the game.
- Before trials commence all coaches **must** commit to the trials process and understand that the club, firstly has a responsibility to existing players within the club and that these players must be accommodated within a team.
- Trials dates and times will be determined by the club committee in conjunction with each manager/coach and where we have multiple teams within the same age group these trials can now commence internally.
- Managers and coaches should discuss the possibility of the internal movement of players as soon as possible. This will allow coaches to make decisions early, and also give them time to coach new players allocated to the teams. This will also help in the process of making new players more comfortable with new team mates and managers and coaches.
- From July onwards any available places left on teams after the internal trials have been completed and existing players accommodated can then commence.
- When holding trials, there **must not** be any coaching from coaches. Players from each age group must be assessed on an individual basis within an eleven-a-side game. Therefore, each player must be played in their strongest position or their perceived strongest position. Players should then be assessed on:
 - **Touch and control**
 - **Positional sense**
 - **Speed and agility**
 - **Strength**
 - **Decision making**
 - **Attendance and attitude**
- Players must be assessed within the trials by the assigned coaches and also a neutral coach.
- When trials dates are finalised, each coach **must**:
 - Attend trials and co-operate with the other coaches within their age group.
 - Make a record of the potential players for their teams.
 - It is important to make early decisions as to the composition of your squad. Please discuss your plans fully with other managers and coaches in your allocated age group, as you may need their assistance later in the season.
 - Sign up players as soon as possible. Forms are available from the club secretary. Completed forms should be returned to the club secretary in order to finalise a list of registered players. **Do not return forms to the league.**
 - Please be aware that a manager's and coach's decisions may have a serious impact on the hopes and aspirations of players. Be sensitive to their feelings.
 - **Please do not discuss any changes in teams with a player unless:**
 - **All coaches have agreed**
 - **Football Committee**
 - **A parent is Present**
- If a player does not want to move internally to another team after the trials process has been completed and the parents have communicated this to the coach then this needs to be brought to the club secretary's attention and s/he will discuss with both the parents and the coaches and hopefully a suitable resolution can be found remembering the purpose of the trials.
- It is recommended that eleven-a-side teams should work with a panel of approximately 16 Players, but no more than 18, seven-a-side teams should work with a panel of 10, and 9-a-side with a panel of 12 players.
- Jerseys, balls and training equipment will be provided by the club. If you have any football problems please contact the club secretary.



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