



Issued:

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Policy Objective

To ensure all players learn different aspects of the game, get equal playing time, and develop a well-rounded skillset across various positions on the court, rather than specialising too early.

WDNA Policy

- All players in the 9/U and 11/U competition **must** be rotated through all positions during the season
- Players must not be stereo typed because of body shape or perceived playing ability

Evidence suggests that children:

- a. Have more fun with variety and do not get bored
- b. Learn and /or improve skills in every area of the court

Guidelines

1. Each player plays a minimum of two (2) positions every game
2. Give players at least a ½ game in a position before changing their position
3. Keep players in the same area (i.e. either goals, or midcourt or defence) in a game
4. Rotate players through all positions throughout the season, or attack and defence
5. Focus on personal improvement rather than comparing players to others of the same age
6. Consider players' emotional or psychological maturity when determining their developmental status

General information

Developmental focus:

- The primary reason for rotation is to prioritise player development over winning
- Allow young players to experience and learn the skills needed for each position on the court

Equal playing time:

- Rotate positions so every player gets a chance to play in different areas of the court
- Ensure fair game time and participation

Age-appropriate rotation:

- Younger teams (9U) may rotate more frequently
- Older teams (11U) might rotate between halves or quarters depending on the coach's strategy

Consider player strengths:

- While rotating is important, coaches can still leverage a player's natural strengths by placing them in positions where they excel
- Regular rotation still must occur

Communication is key:

- Clearly communicate the rotation plan to players before the game, including which positions they will be playing in each quarter.

Improved understanding of the game:

- Players gain knowledge of different roles and responsibilities on the court.

Greater versatility:

- Players become more adaptable to different situations and can contribute effectively in various positions.

Enhanced team cohesion:

- Rotating positions encourages players to support each other across the court.