

Appendix A – 2026 Youth Age Eligibility

Prior to the commencement of the 2024 season a review took place on age criteria parameters for competitions. Football Tasmania reviewed parameters set across other Member Federations. In turn, our age parameters have been set very broadly to provide clubs flexibility selecting players in teams. To allow for this, as in 2024, there will be no RAE applications accepted.

Age Group	Eligible Male Birth Years	Eligible Female Birth Years
10s	2016,2017	2016,2017
12s	2014,2015	2014,2015
13s	2013,2014,2015*	2013,2014,2015*
14s	2012,2013,2014*	2012,2013,2014*
Youth 13/14s	2012,2013,2014,2015*	2012,2013,2014,2015*
Youth 15/16s	2010,2011,2012,2013*	2010,2011,2012,2013*
15s	2011,2012,2013*	2011,2012,2013*
16s	2010,2011,2012*	2010,2011,2012*
17s	2009,2010,2011,2012*	2009,2010,2011,2012*
18s	2008,2009,2010,2011*	2008,2009,2010,2011*
21s	2005,2006,2007,2008,2009,2010,2011*	N/A
Social League / Championship 1	2010*	2011*
Championship / WSL / NPL	2010*	2011*

*Birth years with an asterisk require a “2026 Youth Player Exemption” to be completed and emailed to emma.brown@footballtasmania.com.au by cob Wednesday, prior to being mapped in DRIBL and approved to play. This form is accessible here: [2026 Youth Player Exemption Form.pdf](#)

Football Tasmania will be implementing an **exceptional circumstances exemption process**, where Club Technical Directors & Football Tasmania’s Football Department believe that it is in the best interest of a player’s development to play in a competition outside of the set criteria within the 2026 Age Eligibility Criteria. The criteria and process for such requests is referenced on the following page.

Additional Information

- NPL 21s Competitions are allowed three (3) overage players each game. This is managed through DRIBL.
- Please note girls playing in boys’ competition can play down one year.

Exceptional Circumstances Exemption Process:

This can only be requested by Club Technical Directors for exemption requests outside of the set player age criteria referenced in Appendix A - 2026 Youth Age Eligibility.

The following is the process for completing an assessment for a player to be considered:

- An 2026 Exceptional Circumstances Exemption Form must be completed and emailed to playerdevelopment@footballtasmania.com.au (Please note, player assessments may take up to 10 working days to be completed)
- Once Assessment form is completed by Clubs, Football Tasmania's Football Department will complete an assessment on the individual and approve or decline based on this assessment.
- Approved Assessments will be then sent from the Football Department to Emma Brown, Competitions Coordinator for approval and completion in DRIBL and confirmation with club of completion and approval of assessment.
- Declined Assessments will be communicated directly from the Football Department to the Club requesting assessment.

Key Criteria in Assessment:

- For a player to be considered, they must be participating in either the Football Tasmania Academy OR a Football Tasmania State Squad member (please note, TSP is not considered as having met this criteria).
- Clubs will need to provide the parameters of why they are requesting assessment, and what they will do, to manage the player, if approved.
- The Players Physical & Mental Wellbeing.

Additional Key Information on the process & Assessments:

- If a player is denied advancement through the assessment process, they will be ineligible to complete another exemption within the same playing season.
- There is no opportunity to speed up process, the process from receipt of application for assessment to approval/decline of assessment is 10 working days.
- Reasoning will be provided if an assessment is declined.
- Only the Football Tasmania, Football Department key staff have the authority to approve an assessment.
- The 2026 Exceptional Circumstances Exemption Form is located on the FT website here: [2026 Exceptional Circumstances Youth Exemption Form.pdf](#)