



## **TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE**

9<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Clubs and Stakeholders,

Capital Football last provided a New Zealand Football (NZF) Talent Development Programme (TDP) update towards the end of June and would like to do so again now to ensure clubs and stakeholders are aware of where we are up to in this area prior to the end of the year.

Having completed a process of reviewing those clubs who have run a provisional TDP for youth players (13 to 17 years old) in 2019, whilst at the same time approved those clubs who have applied to run TDP's next year. What this means is that the following clubs have received either full sign off or provisional approval to run a TDP in 2020:

Island Bay United  
Kapiti Coast United (provisional)  
Lower Hutt City AFC (provisional)  
Miramar Rangers  
North Wellington/Onslow Junior  
Petone (provisional)  
Stop Out Sports Club (provisional)  
Upper Hutt City (provisional)  
Waterside Karori  
Wellington United  
Western Suburbs (provisional)

### **What does this mean?**

These clubs have demonstrated that they have the capability to run a TDP through the environments they offer via a year-round training programme to recognised standards, at quality facilities, delivered by high quality coaches. Standards which are driven nationwide to ensure a consistency of delivery meaning that the players receive a quality experience.

With more clubs being able to deliver TDP's we are in a position to be able to run dedicated Leagues for the U13, U15 (dual banded to include U14 as well) and U17 mixed grades in 2020. This joins the link between the quality training sessions being offered by TDP clubs going into a regular game's day experience of the same standards.



Each TDP club will enter one team per youth (U13 through to U17) mixed age group offered into Capital Development Leagues. No other leagues will be impacted, and the structure elsewhere will remain the same.

The girl's game is evolving at a different pace and there isn't currently the depth to offer the same format exclusively for girls. What the TDP offers though is a quality environment for which talented female players within those clubs have the opportunity to thrive, develop and should it be appropriate play in TDP competition.

Capital Football will be continuing to develop upon its Talent Acceleration Programme for talented girls in 2020 and will be further communicating about this and other initiatives specifically for female players early in the new year.

**Youth Competition Structure 2020:**

<b>Tier 1</b>	<b>Capital Development Leagues (TDP clubs only)</b> U13 - 11 Teams U15 (including U14 players) - 11 Teams U17 - 11 Teams
<b>Tier 2</b>	<b>Premier League</b> U13 Premier A - 6 to 12 Teams U13 Premier B - 6 to 12 Teams U15 (including U14 players) Premier A - 6 to 12 Teams U15 (including U14 players) Premier B - 6 to 12 Teams  <b>Under 17 Men's Leagues</b> U17 A - 8 to 12 Teams U17 B - 8 to 12 Teams
<b>Tier 3</b>	<b>Wellington Combined Competitions</b> U13 Yellow - 6 to 8 Teams U13 Black - 6 to 8 Teams U13 Red - 6 to 8 Teams U15 (including U14 players) Yellow - 6 to 8 Teams U15 (including U14 players) Black - 6 to 8 Teams



### **Capital Development Leagues:**

The introduction of the Capital Development Leagues is provided for the top team of each TDP club in each of the youth mixed grades: U13, U15 (including U14 players) and U17. A league format is currently being established whereby these teams will have the opportunity to experience a longer competition opportunity than traditionally received; providing talented players with more quality game time.

Each team will play a minimum of 24 games throughout an extended winter season, which will run no later than the end of September 2020. The regulations to reflect the introduction of the Capital Development League will be updated for the new season. On confirmation of the format Capital Football will invoice clubs accordingly for the amount of games played and referees appointed.

TDP clubs with teams in the Capital Development Leagues will be required to accept the terms of entry, in writing, prior to the start of the season.

### **Identification of players:**

Capital Football will again run Federation Talent Centre (FTC) Camps to assist with identifying youth players for National Age Group Tournament (NAGT). Alongside this the Capital Development Leagues will be used as an additional opportunity to monitor player progress.

Players do not have to be a part of a TDP club to be nominated for FTC Camps. Players from any clubs can be nominated to attend. Those players within TDP clubs however will have the opportunity of being monitored more regularly via Capital Development Leagues and will be a part of an environment which is running a year-round programme to quality recognised standards.

FTC and NAGT are essential opportunities in the development of our players and the following is required of all TDP players regarding these:

- Players must attend for the duration of at least one FTC Camp;
- Players nominated to attend trials for NAGT must fully partake in those trials;
- Any players selected for NAGT or for representation must fully partake in training in the build-up to the tournament (including practice games) and in the tournament itself;



- Clubs must facilitate attendance at FTC camps and NAGT, trainings (including practice games) and tournaments, including releasing the player from club commitments (to be clear, where a player is at any time not registered with a club due to automatic termination of registration, the club in whose TDP programme the player is registered retains those obligations);
- Capital Football reserves the right to withdraw the TDP licence and/or right of participation in Capital Development Leagues for the following year if any TDP club fails to adhere to these expectations.

### How does this fit into the national talent pathway?

New Zealand Football is seeking to provide an aligned structure to meet the needs of players across all levels of the game. The talent pathway offers players who are showing potential additional football with a higher level of competition. The provision involves players being challenged appropriately in minimal environments, enhancing their opportunity of further development.

	TALENT PERFORM	TALENT EXCEL
<b>SENIOR</b>	National Women's League National Men's League Women's Futsal Super League Men's Futsal Super League	Football Ferns All Whites Futsal Ferns Futsal Whites
<b>YOUTH</b>	<b>Capital Development Leagues</b> Federation Talent Centre National Age Group Tournament National Youth League National Youth Futsal Champs	U15/U17/U20 Football Ferns U15/U17/U20 All Whites

The purpose of the **Capital Development Leagues** is to provide a competition to develop talented domestic footballers, coaches and referees.

The guiding principles of the competition are:

- Ideally one team environment for the player to help minimise player welfare issues
- Training regularly with each other
- Playing regularly against each other
- Quality player development programme



Should you have any queries regarding this area please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Your faithfully,

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