

Einnek Football Youth League Rulebook

Revision Date: Friday, 17 October 2008

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Youth League Overview & Structure

Each side in Einnek Football has both a senior side and a youth team. The two sides are run as separate entities but are linked in various ways; primarily by the means of developing new talent in the youth ranks.

The Youth League is played on a ladder basis with one round of seven-a-side games played every two weeks. The league is divided up into groups of 4 sides who play a six match mini-league each game turn. Every Youth League ladder match is played at the Hambrox indoor arena, a specially built seven-a-side complex with 12 dedicated pitches and seating for 36,000 fans.

Promotion and relegation between the leagues takes place following each round of games. The winners and runners-up are promoted to the division above, while the third and fourth placed sides are relegated to the division below. For example:

Starting Division	Position Finished	New Division/Team Number
One	First	Division One – Team 1
	Second	Division One – Team 2
	Third	Division Two – Team 1
	Fourth	Division Two – Team 2
Two	First	Division One – Team 3
	Second	Division One – Team 4
	Third	Division Three – Team 1
	Fourth	Division Three – Team 2
Three	First	Division Two – Team 3
	Second	Division Two – Team 4
	Third	Division Four – Team 1
	Fourth	Division Four – Team 2
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Eleven	First	Division Ten – Team 1
	Second	Division Ten – Team 2
	Third	Division Twelve – Team 1
	Fourth	Division Twelve – Team 2
Twelve	First	Division Eleven – Team 3
	Second	Division Eleven – Team 4
	Third	Division Twelve – Team 3
	Fourth	Division Twelve – Team 4

Running Your Side

Every youth league squad always has 10 players, from which you will need to pick seven players to make up your team for each turn. All sides will play the same nominal 2-2-2 formation with 2 players in each of the outfield positions; defence, midfield and attack. You cannot select over-age players or those who are suspended following two sin-bin offences in a previous round of games.

In between matches you must decide if you want to develop your squad by various means. You can promote them to your full side, release them, send them for specialist training or choose to do nothing than let them train normally. There are no real limits on this and it is entirely your decision how much or how little you do in with your side in-between fixtures.

Player & Staff Wages

Each player in the Einnek Youth League is paid a basic wage which is funded by the senior club as part of their weekly running costs. The same applies to all the specialist training and fitness staff whose jobs are dedicated to developing the skills of these young prospects.

Player Skill Level

The majority of players entering the youth league do at the lowest skill level of one. *See “Promoting Players” section for exceptions to this rule.*

While skill levels in the youth league range from 1 to 10 as in the senior Einnek leagues, there is however, no direct correlation. A skill 5 youth player is considered a better prospect than a skill 4 youth player, but is by no means comparable with a skill 5 senior player.

Players can rise in skill level through playing games and by use of specialist training sessions. While intensive training helps players develop specific skills the effects differ from player to player depending on many factors. *See “Specialist Training” for detailed information.*

Specialist Player Skills

As young players, every prospect in the youth league needs to improve certain skills in order to develop and progress into the senior game. Every player has four broad areas of specialist skill;

Position	Specialist Skill	Details
Goalkeeper	Handling	The ability to catch the ball in all conditions
	Positioning	Positional sense, reading the game
	Crosses	Taking crosses, aerial ability
	Shot Stopping	Reflexes, diving, strong hands and wrists
Outfield	Tackling	The ability to time tackles and their strength
	Ball Control	Touch and feel of the ball
	Passing	Quality and range of passing over varying distances
	Shooting	The ability to hit the target when shooting

The four specialist skills relating to outfield players have an effect on which natural position they would be best suited for in the senior game.

Defenders need good tackling skills, while good ball control and passing skills are of benefit. Midfielders need good across the range skills with emphasis on passing and ball control, while strikers can get away with strong shooting skills but good ball control is a useful plus.

Obviously players with good skills all round can be stars in the senior game in almost any position.

Training Points

Training Points are used by managers to run every aspect of their youth team apart from playing matches.

Each week a team will be given ten training points and they can be used in whatever way the manager decides. They can be used for training players in specialist skills, promoting players to senior sides or releasing and introducing players. Every one of these options carries a specific training point cost and any unused training points are lost each turn if not used.

Action	Training Point Cost	Notes
Promote Player to Senior Side	7	<i>see promoting players section</i>
Release Player from Contract	5	<i>see releasing players section</i>
Basic Specialist Training	1	
Intermediate Specialist Training	3	
Advanced Specialist Training	5	
Intensive Specialist Training	7	

Additional training points can be funded by the club's senior side. A single training point costs £200,000 and a maximum of 5 points can be purchased each youth league turn. These points are added to your available points total immediately.

As previously mentioned, unused training points are lost each turn. This process does not happen at the same time a turn is played, but 48 hours before. For example if, the turn submission deadline for the youth league is Friday, 17th October at 10:00am then all remaining training points will be lost at 10:00am on Wednesday, 15th October. The results of any player specialist training will be seen at this time too.

Specialist Training

Specialist training can be used to aid the development of a player's skills in a specifically targeted area. The level of the training can also be selected but more intensive training costs more training points. There are no guarantees that intensive training will see a large improvement but the chances are greatly increased.

Players can only be entered into one set of specialist training per youth league turn. The results of this training will be seen 48 hours before the turn submission date.

As a player's ability in the specialist skills increases there so will their actual measured skill level. This will happen automatically at pre-determined ability ranges.

Players who are not selected for specialist training will continue to train as normal and their personal stats can increase as well, but the likelihood is that this will be at a very low level of increase.

Promoting Players

Players can be promoted from your youth team to your senior side by using training points. Players are promoted at a set skill level based on their youth league skill. There is a set cost of seven training points for each promotion.

Youth League Skill	Senior Side Skill	Skill of New Youth Player
10	5	3
9	4	2
8	4	2
7	3	2
6	3	1
5	2	1
4	2	1
3	1	1
2	Skill too low to be promoted	n/a
1	Skill too low to be promoted	n/a

As part of this promotion process the side must introduce a new player into their youth squad. This is done at no additional training point cost.

Releasing Players

Any player deemed surplus to requirements in your squad can be released at a set cost of five training points. In order to maintain a squad size of ten players, a new skill one player with fresh stats must be introduced when releasing a player from his contract.

Any released players may be picked up by the non-league players market and sold for cash into the senior game.

Buying and Selling Players

Currently there is no facility to deal with other youth sides. This may be introduced at a later date if it is seen as an improvement to the game without being too complex.

Ages

In the youth league players age one month per youth league turn.

Players are eligible to play in the youth league once they reach their sixteenth birthday. They are deemed too old to play in the youth league when they reach eighteen years and 6 months of age.

Once a player is over the youth league age limit, a manager has 2 turns to either promote or release the player. If they fail to do so then the Einnek Football Association will automatically offer the player a non-league playing contract and you will be prompted to introduce a new player.

International Football

Mirroring the senior Einnek leagues, there are opportunities for players to play at international level in the Youth league.

The Einnek Youth World Cup is contested by 20 countries. These sides will be drawn into four groups of 5 teams playing each other once. The winners of each group then proceed to the semi-final phase; just one game away from the Youth World Cup Final.

International fixtures are played following a League Turn and player eligibility and selection processes are the same as the main game. Each international side will select seven players (one goalkeeper and six outfield players) to compete in each international fixture.

Each player selected will be awarded one International Point. A player is permitted to gain a maximum of 3 International Points from internationals at youth level and these stay with the player as and when they appear in the senior game.

During a youth international, player's specialist skill levels can improve and the best player on each side in an international fixture will increase by one skill point.

There are no B internationals in the Youth League.