

MEMO 33 - 25

To: FQ Academy League Clubs
From: Football Queensland
Subject: Update on FQ Academy League Competition Modifications
Date: September 19, 2025

Dear Clubs

Please find an update below regarding modifications to the FQ Academy Leagues competition to be implemented in 2026 and 2027.

Girls Competitions

Further to the established strategic priorities to grow the girls' game including our commitment to achieving 50/50 gender parity in participation by 2027, Football Queensland has an ongoing plan to enhance competitive playing opportunities for young female players.

As outlined last year, the U14 Girls FQ Academy League will become part of the regular competition structure from 2026, with mandatory participation in this league following optional participation in 2025.

Participation in this competition from 2026 is a requirement of your club's licence, and we are currently seeking estimated player numbers from clubs to assist in the composition of the league.

Football Queensland intends to introduce an U9/10 Girls FQ Academy League in 2026 to provide an age entry for girls, similar to the current offering for boys, and is also seeking feedback from clubs on forecasted player numbers via the form linked above.

This league will initially be available on an opt-in basis in 2026, before participation is made mandatory for all FQ Academy clubs from 2027.

We anticipate that we will be able to achieve complete alignment with the boys' pathway by 2027, with an U16 Girls age group to complement the female pathway alongside an U18 Girls FQ Academy League which will provide an appropriate bridge to senior football (U23 and Seniors).

Boys Competitions

Following input from club TDs in FQ Academy League 1, we would like to seek further information regarding the re-alignment of FQ Academy League 1 U9 teams with the U10 FQ Academy League for 2026.

This means that two U9 teams per League 1 would follow the same fixture as the FQ Academy League 1 U10, U11 & U12 junior leagues.

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Alongside regular U9 fixtures, it is likely that 'Mini Series' events would be held across the season hosted by single clubs where possible.

Finally, we are seeking further feedback from the follow-up questionnaire post WinterFest regarding the opportunity to transition to a competitive event for WinterFest / FQ Junior Cup in 2026.

We'd appreciate if you could please [complete this form with your feedback](#) by **COB Friday, 26 September**.

End.