

Point's to note

At the Horetown tournament and indeed in the preceding week a number of complaints were directed towards the grading committee re. the disproportionate number of 7 point player's playing B. grade, the feeling being that this was a problem on two front's.

- (a) The intention of the grading is that each individual in as far as is possible, plays in an environment which best reflects their abilities, it is not intended that clubs should pack the lower grades with their strongest available players. As it is felt that members who are genuine to the B grade (in this case) some of whom are young and only just being introduced to B grade as well as others who are older these individuals deserve to enjoy their grade, without being totally dominated by players who shouldn't really be in B grade,
- (b) As this is a world cup year there is a need to provide a healthy level of completion to the Irish team players. There is a reasonable number of players of the higher grades available who are eligible to play A grade (18 points UP). they should be playing their proper grade also the youngsters who are on the u21 and development squad are best served by playing in a competitive grade of their peer's and should not either be carried by stronger players nor should they be hammered by stronger players.

As a result of these complaints and following discussion with the grade committee the following was decided. Clubs are recommended to field teams to the highest grade first ie. If an A grade team can be fielded then it should be. Rather than spreading those players through B grade, if however they do decide to field a B grade side, all players of 7 points and above must play the number 2 position.

Changes to become effective immediately

Yours sincerely Tony O'Donnell