**PPS PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATION TO SUPPORT JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT**

**(by Bob Brenton – PPS Auditor January 2018)**

***Background***

* Presumes PPS cap is reduced to 17 with the current 3,2,1 allocations
* Junior development is often ignored by senior clubs
* Acknowledgement that local juniors should be the key source of future players/officials
* There is still a place for imported players but should not to be the primary source

***Preamble***

To date little or no attention has been given to promoting juniors as an active component of the PPS system. This is not to suggest there hasn’t been attention given, but to date there has been no simple proposal produced. Those that have are either too complicated and/or ‘reward’ clubs by allowing an increase in the cap (which is counterproductive)

***The Proposal***

Incentives are provided for all clubs to actively encourage the development of their junior clubs.

Based on this assumption all senior clubs will have a PPS cap of 17. Where clubs do not fulfil the junior teams expectation they will have their cap progressively reduced. The intent is all clubs have progressive and extensive junior components and thereby a homegrown feeder for their club. Clubs who choose not to will, will be restricted in the number of imports they can play on any given match

***Possible examples***

If we assume that there are 9 competitive age divisions in the juniors, (9yrs to 17yrs)

* Any club who fields 7 age divisions is adequately fulfilling their junior responsibilities and will be rewarded by having a cap of 17
* Any club who has 3 or less Junior teams is not fulfilling their junior development responsibilities and will have their cap reduced to 15
* Any club who has more than 3 and less than 7 is partially fulfilling their development responsibilities and will have their cap reduced to 16

***Safeguards***

Consideration will need to be given to ensure clubs

* do not enter teams only for them to be withdrawn during the comp
* are not penalized when they have multiple teams in an age division
* are given consideration for developing non-competitive age divisions (as an example U7s)
* are given time frames to establish junior teams

I am sure there will be many more variations suggested but the systems must be kept simple