Youth Training Load Guidelines





2 days off per 7 day week

Take 2 days off structured football training per 7 day week. Days off should focus on recovery & athletic development. No more than 3 training days in a row.



24 hours Recovery

Make time for adaption - ideally, plan for at least 24 hours recovery between each football session where possible.



Fatigue Reduction Strategies

Nutrition, physical & monitoring strategies may be useful in reducing the impact of fatigue on match performance.



Strength Training

Participate in some form of strength training at least 2-3 x per week. The Perform+ is an ideal example and can be done at home or training.



Stressful Periods

During stressful periods (e.g. exams), consider reducing overall training loads. E.g. take one 'usual' training session off.



Plan Time Off

Schedule at least one month off structured football each year. This time can be used for athletic development including multi-sport participation.

Source: Football Australia Medical Dept - Veith, Lyons, Norton, McKenzie, Jones, Whalan (2025)