

Australian Classification



Nadia and Zac's story

Learn how Nadia used the classification advice to help make choices about the video games her family plays.

Nadia's 12 year old son, Zac, is an active kid who loves soccer. One way he unwinds between his busy training schedule and school is by playing his favourite soccer video game.

Nadia would hear Zac and his friends talking about buying and opening packs of player cards to create ultimate teams. She noticed that Zac started spending more time opening packs of player cards than playing simulated soccer matches. Zac was spending small amounts of money regularly to try to chase and unpack rare player cards, which worried Nadia.

Concerned, Nadia did some research and learnt that playing games with these kinds of gambling-like features, can be associated with gambling-harms as well as financial and psychological harms. Nadia hopped on the Classification website and found out that the game was rated M (not recommended for children under 15) due to chance-based in-game purchases.

'I am so glad I listened to my gut and did some digging to confirm that the game has features similar to gambling. I spoke to some other parents and they also weren't aware that some games their kids play might have this kind of content,' said Nadia.

Nadia spoke with Zac about how the packs worked and why they could be harmful. Together they set up limits and found other ways to enjoy the game.

'When I looked up the game on the Classification website and understood more about the issue, I knew I had to talk to Zac. For us, it wasn't about banning the game but about helping him understand the risks of some of the features and how he can still enjoy the game in a way that I feel more comfortable with.' said Nadia.

New classifications are now in place to help parents and carers identify video games with gambling-like content. You can use classification advice to choose games that are right for your family.

Visit <u>classification.gov.au/NewGameRatings</u> for more information.