



South Melbourne District Sports Club Inc.
2012 Centenary Year

Junior Football

Welcome Pack

2012



Building the Future

Sport • Health • Community

WELCOME PACK FOR 2012

This package has been provided for the benefit of new players and families to the Club, although all families may find the information useful.

While we endeavour to cover all your questions in relation to participating in Junior Football at South Melbourne District, should you require further clarification please contact any of the following Committee Members or refer to information published on the Club's website

<http://smdsc.com.au/junior-football>

Junior Football President

John Holdsworth M: 0417 318 271 jholdsworth@greghocking.com.au

Junior Football Vice-President

David "Gus" Gustin M: 0448 948 726 vicepresident.juniorfooty@smdsc.com.au

Junior Football Secretary

Carmel Benson M: 0439 313 468 cbenson@axa.com.au

Junior Football Registrar

Scott Murphy M: 0408 118 000 registrar.juniorfooty@smdsc.com.au

SMDSC Secretary

Kerry Boulton (Holdsworth) M: 0418 580 612 secretary@smdsc.com.au

Welcome to the Club and we hope that you will
enjoy being part of our community.



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Welcome from Junior Footy President - John Holdsworth

Welcome to the 2012 Football Season at South Melbourne District, or more simply known as "The Bloods". Welcome to all those returning for another season at the Club - a warm welcome to those coming up from Auskick and to those who are new to the Club.

Your Voluntary Participation

Our Club is committed to providing community based sporting opportunities for our children in a safe, competitive and supportive environment where they are able to develop both physically and personally. Family involvement is at the heart of the Club and we can only continue to build on our ongoing success with your generous volunteer participation. You don't have to wait to be asked - please step forward if you can contribute in any way.

South Melbourne District Centenary Year

2012 marks the Centenary of the founding of South Melbourne District Football Club. An exciting year of fun and special events is planned, so be sure to keep up-to-date with what's coming up via our weekly eNews. Your participation will be the key to making it an outstanding year.

A special individualised Centenary Training Jumper is available for purchase at registration. You will be able to have any number you like on the jumper and also add a nickname or your own name on the back, e.g. Plugger, 4.

Club Room Redevelopment

This year will be an even more exciting one for the Club as we embark upon the long overdue redevelopment of the Club Rooms. This will present a couple of challenges - one being the loss of the rooms for much of the season, so we ask for your patience during the building period. Arrangements are in place for alternative facilities nearby.

The other challenge, and there will be further notice of this, is that the Club needs to raise a considerable amount of money in the coming months to supplement the substantial Grants already committed from Parks Victoria, the Victorian Dept. Sport & Recreation, City of Port Phillip & Football Victoria. A donor program is being organised and we ask in advance that you make a commitment to help in whatever way you can. Every dollar will assist.

Changes at the League

2012 heralds a change in name for the junior footy league. The MSJFL is now known as the South Metro Junior Football League (SMJFL) with new logo and new livery.

Playing jumpers will have the League logo on the front. We are being supplied with iron-on badges, which we will be asking each family to apply.

New shorts and socks will also carry the League logo. There is a 2-year grace period for changeover of all playing gear to the new style with logos.



Welcome from Junior Footy President John Holdsworth continued...

Online Registrations & Merchandise Ordering

You are invited to register through the priority link emailed to current and Auskick players. After Feb 24 registrations will be open to all at www.smdsc.com.au/junior-football.

Regrettably, costs have increased significantly over the past two years, which require fees to be increased to \$210 for each child with an incremental \$10 discount available for a second, third or fourth child from the same family. The League has also applied a Levy of \$10 on all players, which is in addition to Club registration.

If you have more than one child you will be required to register each child separately: **you must log out and login again** with your next child's Username & Password where their own Footyweb number will be recorded. You cannot register more than one child at once but you may pay for all your children's registrations in one transaction when you have finished each of their individual registrations.

It may be a little tedious to do this first time around but future registrations will automatically enter all details so you will only need to make amendments to update your information, if required.

The process will save us all a lot of time and provide much more accurate data for our communications.

Remember to order your Club Merchandise when you register! We will have no facility for making this available during the season.

New Club Sponsors

With the withdrawal of Hocking Stuart as the Club's sponsor, we are pleased to announce that a new sponsor has been secured—Greg Hocking Holdsworth, whose logo will appear on the back of all junior playing jumpers.

Team Numbers

Our Club has always practised a philosophy of providing every child an opportunity to play sport and this has not changed. However, in team sports it can become frustrating for those involved if there are too many players, which means that individual game time is cut short. This year we have decided that teams will be limited to 25 players and that those children who have been playing with the Club will receive priority registration. We will readily add more teams if there are too many players in a particular age group, provided we have willing parent volunteers to fill the team roles required!

Training

As in past years, the Grand Prix comes into play and alternative training venues will be advised by Team Managers & Coaches. To assist with the preservation of the ground please also note footy boots are not permitted for training at this time of the year – runners only.

Finally, I am readily available to answer any questions on 0417 318 271 or email jholdsworth@greghocking.com.au



Best regards,

John Holdsworth
President – Junior Football





Frequently Asked Questions



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South Melbourne District Junior Football Competition

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my child ready to play Junior Competition Football?

Unfortunately there is no correct answer to this question. The South Melbourne District Junior Football Club (SMDJFC) prides itself on running a professional program that provides young sportspeople and our Club's Auskickers with a pathway to continue playing football, and developing their football skills, playing competition football. However, risk is present in everything we do and our Club and League manages this by adhering to the AFL's **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY (AFL Victoria Regulation 5.1.1 (a))**.

We have provided a copy of a paper compiled by an experienced football dad simply titled "[Auskick or Junior Football?](#)" which may assist you and your child in making this decision.

Is my Child insured when they train and play matches?

Football is a contact sport and the risk of sustaining injury is something that all parents and players need to consider. Therefore the Club always recommends players have private health insurance. That said players, officials and spectators are insured under the League's insurance policy issued by JLT Sport National Insurance. [Click here for details](#)

How old does my child need to be to participate?

There is no minimum age restriction however the youngest competition age group is for Under 9 children. Therefore a 7 year old child may be playing against 9 year old children. This is the choice of the parent, and we would encourage parents to also seek the advice of their team coach should they require any guidance.

What is the maximum junior age group?

SMDJFC runs teams from Under 9 up to Under 17. We also provide a pathway for our players to play Reserve and Senior grade football within the Club, which plays in the Amateurs competition.

Can my daughter play?

Yes absolutely, however please note the competition does not allow females who reach 14 years of age as at 1 January in the year of play to play in any competition that is not a 'female competition'.

What age group will my child play?

The date of determination of a player's age for the purpose of determining in which age group the player shall be eligible to play is the first day in January of the year in which the player is to play. Example: A player who turns 12 years of age on or after the 1st of January 2012 shall be eligible to play in the Under 12 age group.

How are teams selected?

The Club has developed a "[Team Selection Policy](#)" for our Club and Coaches. Click on the link to download a copy.

Please note that should you or your child have any special circumstance that requires you to be in the same playing group as another family please advise the Coach and Team Manager.

If I have a dispute with team selection, or any other matter what do I do?

The Club has produced an "[Issues Resolution Policy](#)" you should refer to. Click on the link to download a copy.

What competition does the Club participate in?

[The South Metro Junior Football League \(SMJFL\).](#)

The name of the League has changed in 2012 and was formerly known as the Moorabbin Saints Junior Football League (MSJFL).

Does the Junior Football Competition have modified rules?

Yes, but only in the [Under 9 and Under 10](#) competition. Further details can be found at the [League website](#)

The team coaches will run through these and teach the children all modified rules.

When does training start?

Training will usually commence early February and Team Managers will communicate this to families. The Club will also issue general advices regarding this.

When and where does the team train?

Junior teams train at Oval 11 and Oval 12, Aughtie Drive (opposite Fraser St light rail stop) Albert Park Reserve (Melway Map 2N, Ref J1).

Training for Under 9 to under 14 players held on Wednesday nights at 5pm for 60-75 minutes. Training for Under 15s to Under 17s will be set by the team coach.

Please also note that during the Grand Prix event training venues will change, and details will be advised by your Team Manager and / or Coach.

PLEASE NOTE – It is recommended that all families purchase a Junior Sporting Club Parking Permit (\$11.50 for annual permit) as all parking areas are regularly patrolled. Click the link for [Parks Victoria](#) Application forms. Simply attach copy of your registration receipt as proof of membership. Parking fees apply to all car parks and kerbside parking spaces within Albert Park.

Do parents need to be present at training?

No, however most coaches will appreciate any parent helpers willing to give a hand, or just support the players. U10 teams are allocated running of the bar at the Clubrooms for training night and team managers will roster parents to assist.

When and where does the team play matches?

Games are played on Sunday anytime from 8.00am to 3.00pm.

Playing venue is determined by the competition fixture and a list of playing grounds can be sourced from the [League's website](#)

Do parents need to be present at games?

While it is not mandatory, there are a number of tasks that are required to be assigned to parents on the day. These roles are typically assigned in advance by the Team Manager and can be rotated.

They include:

- Goal Umpire
- Boundary Umpire
- Trainer
- Runner
- Timekeeper
- Umpire Escort
- Drinks Carrier
- BBQ Helpers (Home Games)

What are the Team's Official Roles?

All teams must have a maximum four officials present and these are the only parents/helpers allowed inside the boundary fence on game days. These people are:

- Coach
- Runner
- Trainer (First Aid qualified)
- Team Manager or Assistant Coach

Please note all team Coaches are required to be Level 1 Accredited with the AFL and also hold a Working With Children card.

How is the Team Coach appointed?

Every year the Club calls for coaching nominations. These applications are reviewed by the Club's Junior Footy Operations Committee and recommendations are made to the Junior Football Committee for their decision.

What about helping out around the Club?

There are times when many hands make light work. We always encourage our parents to help out where they can, whether it is emptying a full rubbish bin, picking up litter they see lying around, carrying equipment, chairs etc ... a helping hand is always appreciated and you don't have to wait to be asked.

What other responsibilities do parents involved have?

All Parents, Officials and Spectators are required to adhere to the League's "[Code of Behaviour](#)" incorporated in the League's Rules & By-Laws. Click on the link to download a copy.

What communications can I expect to receive?

The most common form of communication within the Club is via email. It is therefore important that when you register that you include your family email addresses. If you do not have email then you need to advise the Club's registrar.

The communications you will receive will be via (1) weekly E-News communications from the Club and (2) regular emails from the Team Manager of your child's team.

How much does it cost to register for Junior Football?

This season's registration fee has been set at \$210 for the first child, which includes their playing jumper (to be returned to the Club at the end of the season), League registration fees, insurance and a SMDJFC training top for all new players to the Club. The League has also applied a \$10 levy per player which is in addition to the Club's registration fee.

If payment of fees presents any financial difficulties, please speak to the Club's Junior Football President.

Can I get a discount if I have siblings playing at South Melbourne District?

Additional siblings will receive a discount of \$10 for first child, \$20 for second and \$30 for third & subsequent children .

How do I register and pay?

NOTE: FIRST TIME PLAYERS IN THE SMJFL and transferring players are required to provide a completed [New Player Registration/Transfer Application Form](#) which is available by clicking the link. In addition first time players need to provide proof of age via copy of passport or birth certificate. [See the Club website for full instructions.](#)

Once your completed form is received by the Registrar, a Username and Password will be emailed to you with a link to complete your Club registration online. **From Feb 24, 2012 a link will be on the Club's Website** <http://smdsc.com.au/junior-football>

Can my child try out before registering?

Yes. However, please note that as team numbers are typically restricted to a maximum number of 25, should this cut off be reached before registering, your child will be placed on a waiting list.

Can I transfer to South Melbourne District from another Club?

Yes. Please complete and submit the [Player Registration/Transfer Application Form](#) available from the League website and submit this to our Club's registrar.

What Uniform, Equipment and Accessories do I need?

As mentioned, the Club provides player jumpers for use during the season.

In addition players will be required to provide their own

Playing Shorts (1 x red and 1 x white) – *order from the Club when you register online*

Playing Socks – *order from the Club when you register online*

Football Boots

Mouthguard (Compulsory for Training and Matches)

- *order online from the Club when you register or through dentist (see below)*

Headguard/ Helmet (Not mandatory but recommended)

A handy "[Player Checklist](#)" has been produced by the Club to assist. Click on the link to download a copy.

How do I get a mouthguard for my child?

A cost effective mouldable mouthguard with dental warranty can be purchased at Registration, which is a new inclusion for 2012. Chemists also have a mouldable option or alternatively a properly fitted one (which is recommended) can be made by your family dentist. The Club also engages a qualified supplier to visit our Club and offers a convenient and professional mouthguard fitting at training. This season's date will be advised in due course via the Club's E-News communications.

Is additional merchandise available?

Yes. This is listed and available when you register online. The Club has many other items including polar fleece jackets, spray jackets, Club caps, polo shirts etc. which are available for purchase.

How long will the season run for?

The season will usually commence in April and finish early August, with finals to follow. Match details will be provided weekly by your Team Manager, however a fixture will be available via the [SMJFL website](#):

Does my child have to attend every training session and match?

Ideally, yes. The Coach and Club expects our players to be available for all training sessions and games, but we understand this is not always possible. As a courtesy you should always advise your Team Manager and/ or Coach if your child is unable to participate.

What is the Club's theme song?

Sung to the tune of the Sydney Swans team song ...

***Cheer, cheer the red and the white
Honour the name by day and by night
Lift that noble banner high
Shake down the thunder from the sky
Whether the odds be great or be small
South will go in and win over all
While her loyal sons are marching
Onward to Victory!"***

Can parents volunteer to help?

Absolutely and in many ways. Aside from the important game day assistance provided to your Team Manager you are very welcome to help the coach/es at training – just ask.

In addition there are particular skills required by the Club's Junior Football Committee who always need volunteers to be involved in many administrative (database), representative (at League meetings) and pro-active (i.e fundraising) roles. If you would like to volunteer or even come along and see what it is like to be on the committee, please email your contact details to secretary@smdsc.com.au

If you can't volunteer please remember that a simple "thank you" here and there to our volunteers never goes astray!

Does the Club hold social events?

Absolutely. Stay tuned to regular E-News communication regarding Club and team social events. As a regular social gathering, the upstairs bar is open to provide refreshments (and a warm winter environment) every Wednesday night at training.

If my business is interested in sponsoring a team, or the Club, to whom do I speak?

Please call the Club's Junior President, John Holdsworth Mobile 0417 318 271 or Email jholdsworth@greghocking.com.au

We ask all members that where possible please support our sponsors as they support our Club. There details are available at the Club's website.

I still have some questions ... who should I direct these to?

Please email or contact any of the Club officials or committee members. Details can be found on the Club website <http://smdsc.com.au/junior-football>

Links to Available References and further information:

[Details of League's Insurance Cover](#)

[List of Playing Venues](#)

[New Player Registration & Player Transfer Form](#)

[SMJFL Rules & By-Laws incorporating the Code Of Conduct](#)

[Parks Victoria Parking Permit Application Form](#)

[League Fixture](#)

[Auskick or Junior Football? Discussion Paper](#)

[SMDJFC Team Selection Policy](#)

[SMDJFC Issues Resolution Policy](#)



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Player's Game Day Checklist

Tick box

- Team Jumper
- Red Shorts (Home)
- White Shorts (Away)
- Club Socks
- Footy Boots
- Mouthguard (mandatory)
- Headguard (optional)
- Sportsbag (Optional)
- Towel
- Change of Clothes/ Runners
- Medication (if applicable)
-

CLUB THEME SONG

***Cheer, cheer the red and the white
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HEADS UP EVERYONE....

There's a lot of work that goes into running junior footy. Most of it done by three – Carmel Benson, Kerry Boulton & David “Gus” Gustin – all of whom are about to scale back their involvement. If you read the list below you'll get some idea why!!

Over the next few weeks tasks will be delegated to teams. Some can be shared, some are weekly and some once off. None of them is onerous or hugely demanding – they just need to be done. So expect an email from your team manager!

The Club and the Committee need your help. We are a community club and rely on parents to become involved to keep our kids decked out in red and white, run training sessions, manage footy fixtures, keep the canteen supplied and for those caffeine addicts amongst us – keep the coffee flowing on Sunday mornings.

Please put your hands up! We need you.

Here's what's delegated to teams:

Tasks and Team Group

- Canteen Ordering & BBQ supplies U9s
- Lightning Carnival U9s and U10s [with help from U11s]
- Run the bar – Wed training U10s
- Football Jumpers U10s
- Trainer Kits U11s
- Team Manager Kits U12s
- Merchandise U12s
- Team Photos U14s
- Start of Season Welcome Event U13s & U15s
- Presentation Day U13s & U15s

This is a “heads up” for everyone in the Club. To make running of the junior footy club an easy task year-in, year-out you know that when your child is in a particular age group, that group will be responsible for that task. When tasks are shared amongst helpers within that age group, the jobs become easy and running of the Club becomes sustainable and an efficient, well-oiled machine!!!

One-page “How To” guides have been prepared, so you won't be dropped in the “deep end” and Carmel, Kerry & Gus will be around to provide guidance.

WE NEED YOU!



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