



Macquarie Dragons Football Club

Information Sheet – Winter Season 2019

Macquarie Dragons Football Club is your local grassroots football club serving the Macquarie Park and Marsfield area. We play in local competitions run by the Gladesville Hornsby Football Association (GHFA) and the North West Sydney Women's Football (NWSWF) Association. We have strong relationships with St Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Eastwood Heights Public School.



Macquarie Dragons was Champion Club from the 25 clubs in the NWSWF in 2018



Macquarie Dragons was the 5th largest of the 30 clubs in GHFA in 2018

Macquarie Dragons is a community-run club that relies on the work of volunteers and family members. There are roles for players, coaches, managers, referees and committee members. All member families are asked to support the club by participating in canteen, dressing the field, supporting the chocolate drive fundraiser and attending the club annual social night.

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations can be made online or at the club registration days.



Online registration <https://www.playfootball.com.au/> from 3rd January 2019.
Select either Macquarie Dragons Soccer Club or Macquarie Dragons Women.



Register in person after school.
St Anthony's Parish Hall 7th-8th Feb.



Register in person after school.
Eastwood Heights Hall 7th-8th Feb.



Pay the competition fee for your package including any special discounts



We have a strict policy of "no pay, no play" because there is no insurance cover unless you have paid the registration fee. If we cannot place you in a team due to insufficient team numbers then we will give a full refund.

RESPECT

GHFA and NWSWF has implemented a RESPECT program (refer <http://www.ghfa.com.au/respect.html>). Players and participants are subject to the direction of referees and officials plus the disciplinary tribunals of the football associations.

Macquarie Dragons has an excellent disciplinary record and is known for our sportsmanship. The executive committee will not tolerate abuse of any officials, players, parents, spectators or referees.

Our club is run by volunteers, who like you have work and family commitments in addition to their role in Macquarie Dragons. Best efforts can be frustrated by external factors beyond their control, such as ground availability, weather and late registrations by players.

With over 16,000 players GHFA and NWSWF discourages club players and parents from contacting them directly. If you have any concerns or comments, please feel free to contact any of the Macquarie Dragons officials. Please offer your services along with your suggestions ... because any help is gratefully accepted.



www.macquariedragons.com.au



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WINTER SEASON COMPETITIONS

Macquarie Dragons enters teams in a number of different competitions for the winter season. These competitions commence in April and end in August. Each competition has a slightly different structure.

Super League

Macquarie Dragons runs a squad of two teams in the GHFA Super League competition. Trials for this squad are conducted in December. For more information contact our Super League convenor Mitch Tracey. (superleague@macquariedragons.com.au)

Mini-Roos's Small Sided Games (u6-u11)

Competition Structure - Mini-Roos is a non-competitive small sided game format on a small field with simplified rules. The mini-roos organizers will try to keep friends playing together in the same team. Teams will be graded into Divisions to ensure that matches are evenly balanced and kids have fun. Mixed teams play on Saturdays in the GHFA competition. Girl's teams play on Sundays in the NWSWF competition.

U6 and U7 – is a four aside game for teams of 5 to 7 players. There is no individual grading of players for mini-roos at Macquarie Dragons.

U8 and U9 – is a seven aside game for teams of 9 to 11 players. There is no individual grading of players for mini-roos at Macquarie Dragons unless the club decides to field a "Division 1" team.

U10 and U11 – is a nine aside game for teams of 11 to 13 players. Macquarie Dragons grades players between teams but players may choose to not be graded and to play with their friends. Grading is conducted between 12th and 14th February at Waterloo Park. Details to be supplied to registered players prior to the date.

Mini-Roos's Trial Days - U6-U9 players need to attend the pre-season team days on 10th and 17th March at Fontenoy Park to meet your team and get organized.

Mini-Roos's Gala Day - U6-U9 teams are invited to play in a football round robin and grab a bite to eat from the Sausage Sizzle at the Gala Day on 24th March. Parents and Grandparents are welcome to come & meet others in your child's/children's team. All new U6-U9 Dragons registrations will receive a Dragons football kit at the gala day. This includes: training shirt, black club shorts, club socks & soccer ball.

Co-op Training - Macquarie Dragons uses co-operative or academy style training for non-competitive age groups to teach children ball skills and football techniques at a very young age.

The sessions are fun for the players and make it easy for team coaches and managers. Each cooperative training sessions will be led by the club appointed head coach who will organise the setup of all activities. Co-op for all U6-U11 (girls and boys) is at Waterloo Park. U6-U7 will train from 5-6pm and U8-U11 from 6:30-7:30pm. All Co-op participants will be given a club training shirt that should be worn to their team training.

Competitive Football – Juniors (u12-u18)

Competition Structure - Juniors is competitive 11 a side football for teams of 12 to 16 players played on a full field with only minor modifications to the Laws of the Game. Mixed teams play on Saturdays in the GHFA competition. Girl's teams play on Sundays in the NWSWF competition.

Player Grading - Grading will take place if there are a sufficient number of registered players in an age grade to form 2 or more teams. Players will be graded on skill level by an external experienced coaching company so that the team/division nominations forwarded to the GHFA will have players of a similar skill band. We are looking for junior players who want to compete in the higher divisions of each age grade i.e. Division 1 and 2. These teams will be focused primarily on ability and performance. Depending on numbers grading is conducted between 12th and 14th February from 6:00PM at Waterloo Park. Registered players will be notified prior to grading sessions.

Pre-season trial games - with in-house teams and other clubs are held in late March subject to ground availability. You will be advised by your team manager if your team is scheduled for a trial game.

Training - Our training grounds are Waterloo Park and Marsfield Park. Training will start mid-March on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evening. Each team will be given a "spot" to train on. Your coach or manager will liaise with the age coordinator in regards to days and times.

Competitive Football – All Age and Over 35

Competition Structure - is competitive 11 a side football for teams of 12 to 16 players. The All Age organizers will try to keep friends playing together in the same team. Teams will be graded into Divisions to ensure that matches are evenly balanced according to the competition rules of each Association.

Training - Our training grounds are Waterloo Park and Marsfield Park. Your coach or manager will liaise with the age coordinators in regards to days and times.

Women's Football Competition and Venues

Most games are played on Sundays at Morrison Bay Park and Meadowbank Park. Non-competitive small sided games may also be played at other nearby venues.

Teams are expected to complete one canteen shift per season at either home ground given by NWSWF. Your team manager will notify you once the allocations are set.

Goalkeeper training

A specialist goalkeeper program is available for aspiring U8-U16 keepers. Sessions run at Waterloo Park on Wednesdays (U8-U11: 4:30-5:30pm & U12-U16: 5:45-6:45pm). Spots are limited to 8 players per session.. If more than one player per team the manager will need to provide a roster.

GAME DAY

Wet Weather

Games and training is ALWAYS **ON** unless called off by the association, the local council or the club. Football is often played in the rain. Club executives will close grounds if deemed too dangerous to use. In the event of a wet-weather ground closure, an SMS notification will be sent out no later than 4pm to team managers. The team manager will relay this message to team members. The grounds will be re-assessed once again on Saturday afternoon for Sunday games.



Team Uniform/Attire

In all matches players must appear in proper uniform, comprising Dragons playing shirt, black Dragons club shorts (or plain black shorts), Dragons club socks (or plain black socks), approved footwear and shin pads. A referee may prevent you from playing if not correctly dressed and the association may fine you, your team or our club. No jewelry is allowed.

The club issues a Dragons playing shirt to each player which is on loan for the season and must be returned at presentation day by your team manager in the team kit bag provided. For a strip clash of competitive teams the team manager will obtain a set of white alternate playing shirts from the Waterloo canteen.

You can purchase club socks, shorts and shin pads from the canteen on any Saturday during the season. For players safety, shin pads and approved football boots must be worn at all games and training sessions.

Canteen

The club relies on team volunteers to operate canteens at Fontenoy Park and Waterloo Park. These are valuable fund raisers which are popular with children and parents alike. Prior to the start of the season every team manager will receive a roster detailing their allotted schedule for opening, running and closing the canteens. Team managers will arrange a roster of parents to staff the canteen on each allocated day.

Ground-setting

The first team playing on game day at each home ground is responsible for setting up the ground.

For the mini teams at Fontenoy Park all field equipment is stored in the right side change room. Ground settings and all field numbers are located inside the canteen wall. You will need to setup all mini goals, all nets on the bigger fields and all corner flags. Your mini committee coordinator will give further instruction to all mini team managers at the start of the season.

For Waterloo Park and Marsfield Park, the last team to play on Saturday or Sunday is responsible for taking down the nets, rope, and flags. At Marsfield Park please place all field equipment in storeroom at the rear of the canteen amenities building. Your manager will be contacted with all the details and will need volunteers. Full instructions on how to dress and undress the fields are located in the canteens.

ACTIVE KIDS \$100 REBATE

From 1 January 2019 parents across NSW can create and redeem their next \$100 Active Kids voucher for each school-enrolled child to cover registration, participation and membership costs for Macquarie Dragons Football Club.
www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-active-kids-voucher



OFFICIAL ROLES

Working with Children Check (WWCC)

It is a requirement of Football NSW that all technical directors, coaches and managers working or volunteering with children under 18 years of age obtain a WWCC and provide their Club with a valid number. Referees over 18 years of age and volunteer parents or close relatives coaching or managing their own child's or close relative's team are NOT exempt.

www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-working-children-check

Team Manager and Assistant Manager

Every team needs a manager to coordinate the logistics, communications and records of the team. No special football skills or knowledge are prerequisites.

Team Coach and Assistant Coach

Every team needs a coach to organize training and coordinate how the team plays the game. Coaching young people of any age gives you the opportunity to have a massive and important influence on the future of your community and can be full of challenge and rewards. No special football skills or knowledge are prerequisites. Macquarie Dragons offer all coaches the opportunity to attend training courses throughout the season free of charge.

Coaching Courses

FFA recommends that all coaches from Grassroots through to U18 attend a football coaching course during the season to learn and understand the new coaching curriculum and how to implement it to players of all levels. Macquarie Dragons arranges coach training via GHFA free of charge.

Coaches and Managers Information Evening

The coaches and managers information evening takes place on 25th March 2019 at 7.30pm at the Ranch Hotel. This meeting is compulsory for ALL the clubs coaches & managers as it's the only night in the season where we cover all the new and important information for the upcoming season. We also have each team's gear handed out on this night together with a complimentary club polo for all new coaches and managers to wear at their training and game day.

Referees

Macquarie Dragons members are encouraged to serve as match referees and assistant referees from age 13 and above. A football refereeing course is available to all players from U14 and above, the Club will pay for your attendance costs. Boys and girls interested in becoming a referee can earn some useful money on a Saturday or Sunday. Please contact one of the committee members. Macquarie Dragons encourages senior referees and has a number of current and former players refereeing at senior or higher levels.

Club Organizers

Our club is run by volunteers. Every aspect of organizing the club and age groups has to be done by somebody. That somebody would welcome an assistant. This is especially the case with age group coordinators, ground marshals and canteen coordinators.

Macquarie Dragons is managed by an executive committee elected at the Annual General Meeting in October each year. Players above 18 years old and parents of younger players are members of the club entitled to vote at the AGM.