

The A-Z of the Canterbury Junior Football Club

Important information for Parents and Players about the policies, philosophies and procedures of the Canterbury Cobras JFC (CJFC)

Australian Rules Football – the greatest game in the world!!!! Our aim is to provide the right environment for our kids to have fun, keep fit, learn and to develop their footy and team player skills.

Awards are issued to every player on a team basis at our annual Presentation Day in September. A rostered/team voting system (see Voting) for each team is recorded. Weekly encouragement awards are also handed out within each team.

Alcohol – The consumption/sale of alcohol is banned during all junior football games.

Behaviour – Codes of Conduct issued by the Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) are adopted by CJFC and we actively encourage their support. Parent, player and coach's behaviour is indicative and reflective of the Club and it is expected that all members will comply with these standards. Spectator and Parental abusive language or threatening behaviour of Umpires and players is NOT tolerated. The Club and the YJFL have strict Racial Discrimination and Vilification policies and rules.

Boroondara Hawks – In 2008, foundation and stakeholder clubs Canterbury Junior Football Club, Balwyn Junior Football Club and Hawthorn Citizens Junior Football Club together formed the Boroondara Hawks. The intention of this amalgamation was to provide a quality, well-resourced and specifically tailored football program for 15,16 and 17 year old boys, providing a pathway for the players of the stakeholder clubs to senior football. All available Canterbury JFC players wishing to continue in these age groups (after under 14) will be encouraged to join the Boroondara Hawks.

Calendar – a season Calendar is published on the website which indicates match days, no-game weekends, holiday breaks, parent-only fundraising event, and social family functions.

Canterbury Cobras – This is a strong Club which is committed to our Community and to providing and sustaining our children with an ongoing interest for Aussie Rules football.

Canteen – We provide canteen facilities at Canterbury Sports Ground on home match days. The canteen is very successful, but its operation relies heavily upon the rostered parents of each team. You may be required to fulfil only 1 or 2 such rosters within a season. Your participation and support are critical.

Coaches – Our Coaching staff all volunteer their time – the Club greatly appreciates their input and your cooperation of their decisions is anticipated. Club Policy limits coaching the same team to tenure of 2 years to ensure our kids are exposed to a wide variety of instruction. All coaches must have or gain Level One AFL Coaching Accreditation for the season in which they are coaching. Anyone who feels they may be interested in a coaching or assistant coaching role at any time (it can be for future years) can register their interest with either the Football Director or Coaching Director.

Committee – This is the Club's main source of communication. Committee members details are available on the Club website, are available through Coaches/Team Managers. New Committee members are always being sought. If you have any interest in joining the Committee please contact our President John Rutledge. If you should have any concerns, suggestions or opinions regarding any issues or concerns please also direct these to the Committee.

- D**irector of Coaching – CJFC is committed to developing and implementing a quality junior football development program. This program focuses on developing and fostering player enjoyment, skill competency and the concept of Club and team. Our Director of Coaching, Peter Scott is charged with the responsibility to assist our Coaches implement the CJFC Development Program.
- D**issatisfaction – If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the Club, you are encouraged to voice your concerns to the Committee.
- D**irector of Football – Paul Townsend is representing the CJFC as our Football Director for Season 2016. The Director of Football is responsible for all matters football within the Club and for the implementation of club football and participation policies.
- D**evelopment – The Canterbury Junior Football Club is committed to developing the skills of ALL players, thus enhancing enjoyment of playing our great game. To this end we have introduced a weekly Skills Development training session, run by experienced coaching staff. These sessions allow children to concentrate on developing particular skills as identified by their coaches.
- E**mails – The Club asks for your email address. This information will not be misused and your privacy will be ensured. Please assist the Club and your team manager by providing us with the means to use technology to its fullest advantage. Should your email address change please notify us immediately, it is a vital communication tool between you and the Club.
- E**njoyment – Remember that children are playing junior football for *their* enjoyment! Supportive and enthusiastic parenting is encouraged but sometimes needs to be capped. Coaches and parents should work together to achieve the most for their children and there must be honest and open communication.
- E**quipment – CJFC has gone to great expense in providing the correct and entire equipment needed for training and match days. Please look after and be respectful and accountable for this huge investment of Club funds.
- F**irst Aid: In 2016 we will continue to provide First Aid to all of our Teams at our home ground (CSG) every week. This will ensure our players and opposition players playing at our home ground have highly trained First Aid professionals available in the event of any accident. Peace of mind for all parents.
- F**ixtures – Game times and locations are not advised by the YJFL until approximately 2 weeks before the first game – only the first four matches will be included in the initial fixtures. At the conclusion of Round 4, fixtures for rounds 5 through to 7 will then be received – generally not until the Tuesday after Round 4. Fixtures for rounds 8 through to 16 will then be distributed. Our Club website (www.canterburyjfc.com.au) is a great source for up to date information, including fixture changes, ground/venue locations and social functions.
- F**undraising – All junior sporting Clubs require funds other than those provided by subscriptions alone. Costs are in excess of \$100,000 per annum to provide facilities and equipment, fund insurance and pay required game and YJFL fees. Fundraising activities are required and need to be undertaken to maintain the quality, quantity and availability of equipment and facilities. We appreciate your support.
- G**ordon Barnard Reserve – This is the Club’s second Home Ground and is located in Balwyn North, Melways reference 46 G4.
- G**radings of Teams within the Canterbury Junior Football Club (CJFC) – CJFC has a policy of not grading players until Under 13 and Under 14 levels. Grading will only occur where there is more than one team in the age group. The Director of Football and Director of Coaching will work with the coaches involved in the decision making, management and implementation process associated with grading.
- G**radings of Teams within the Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) – The YJFL “Grade” each age group from Under 10 level. A “Gold” division side is otherwise known as Division One; a “Brown” division side is known as Division Two; “Green” is Division Three, “Blue” is Division Four, “Black” is division Five and “Red” Division Six. This grading is reflective of general standard, competence and ability, graduating from Gold Division down.

The first four matches of the season for Under 10 upwards are “Grading Matches”. These matches determine whether the team is in the correct “Grade”. Parents are welcome and encouraged to discuss any issues with regard to the League grading policy with any member of our Committee.

Helmets – These are not compulsory at CJFC, however, should be considered as parental choice.

Injuries and Insurance – The Club has a procedure in place when a player is injured. A multi-part form should be completed and presented to the Committee. This form can also be used as record of injury in the case of an insurance claim. Insurance claims should be directed to your Team Manager or the Secretary. CJFC is a respondent to the insurance program instituted by YJFL. Details of the coverage are circulated to parents at the beginning of the Season.

Jumpers – CJFC has gone to great expense in providing jumpers for our members. Your care and return of these assets at the end of the season is greatly appreciated and **expected**. Please follow the instructions on the care and maintenance of this Club equipment.

Liaison – Communication with your child’s coach, team manager and other members of the team is the main ingredient for the successful running of each particular team. Encourage these levels of communication for a smooth running season.

Match Reminders – This is an automatic process whereby emails are sent out on a Thursday evening to each player with game information for the Sunday. The Club relies on your email address being correct and recorded for this system to be successful.

Mouthguards – These are **compulsory**! The CJFC supports the YJFL Policy and complies with their policy regarding mouthguards – No mouthguard – No Play! Anyone who wishes to can have their children’s mouthguards fitted through the Club by our sponsor “Sportsafe Australia”. Alternatively, your dentist will be able to provide you with contact details for suppliers if they do not provide the service. Self-moulding varieties for most age groups are available from most sports stores or larger chemists.

New Players – The club welcomes new players wherever possible. Please encourage your children to talk to classmates, neighbours, relatives, etc as possible recruits, particularly for teams where numbers are low. For information in relation to new Registrations contact our Registrars, Tim and Bronwyn Phillips.

Oranges for ¼ time. Your Team Manager will include this in the Duty Roster. Do the right thing when your turn comes up.

Pathway – The formation of the Boroondara Hawks provides a guaranteed pathway for our players from Tackers through to senior football. For years Junior Clubs in this geographic area have faced the uncertainty of whether they can field a side in each age group every year – the Canterbury Cobras can now be confident of offering a game of football to every child who wants one. For more information on the Boroondara Hawks please refer to our website and www.boroondarahawks.com.au

Pre-season training will be held in March. Details of grounds and times will be advised to you by your Coach or Team Manager. Pre-season training generally will not be at Canterbury Sports Ground as the club does not have tenancy of that ground until April.

President – John Rutledge is our President this for Season 2016. John is very approachable, and encourages you to contact him if you have any concerns, criticisms or praises.

Privacy – The Committee ensures your privacy will be respected with regards to the Club database and email addresses.

Quintessential – The quintessential thing for any club is for *all* members to contribute. Physical, moral and financial support from as many members as possible eases the burden for everyone and makes for a great environment to develop your children's character as well as sporting prowess.

Racial and Religious Tolerance Policy – CJFC is committed to this Policy introduced by Football Victoria and the Yarra Junior Football League. Racial vilification will not be tolerated by our Club.

Registrar: Tim and Bronwyn Phillips are our Registrars for 2016. For all information on registering new players for the season please contact them directly.

Rosters – Each week, depending on the team age group, Parents are required to volunteer as Goal Umpires, Boundary Umpires, Timekeepers, Umpire Escorts, Scoreboard Attendants, Canteen Assistants etc. Please remember games cannot be played without these positions being filled. The bottom line, should this occur, is that the kids will *NOT* get a game of football. Each Team Manager will prepare a roster of duties and it is **expected** that parents cooperate, participate and ensure they fulfil their obligations. This is critical and everyone doing their bit will make for a successful and smooth season.

Secretary – Cathy Townsend is our Club Secretary for 2016. Cathy is responsible for overseeing the day to day operation of the Club. Cathy is the person who should be contacted in relation to any queries in relation to this document.

Skills – It is expected that all players will play in a team commensurate with their individual skill level.

Sunday – Sundays are Match Days!!

Social nights are also held on Sundays! (refer to Club Calendar) “Sunday Sippers” is their common name whereby one or two age groups are allocated an evening to “host”. The Committee will organise adult drinks and food. The teams in charge of the evening simply organise a roster for the BBQ, Bar & Lolly Stall for the night. Dates have been set and although hosts have not yet been allocated, please reserve these nights for an easy Sunday dinner! Please refer to our website and observe notices which will be posted. These are great family nights, an opportunity for the parents in particular to get to know each other and get involved with the Club. Please note that the Club practices Responsible Serving of Alcohol at such events.

Sponsorship – Sponsors are important to our fundraising activities. We have sponsorship packages available, should you have any means to help in this regard, please contact Peter Jago.

Squads – Where there are more than one team in an Age Group, they train together as a squad. This is designed to encourage kids to get to know each other in their age group within the Club, despite what school they attend, and is intended to broaden their friendship base. It also provides the numbers to allow certain skill drills to be undertaken as well as maintaining team based activities.

Training – We are respectful of the time devoted by our coaches, hence the training night is always selected by him to accommodate his work and other commitments. We are limited to the times that are available as the Canterbury Senior Footy Club has tenancy of Canterbury Sports Ground from 6.30 pm on Tuesday and Thursdays. Training sessions are limited to once per week and a maximum of 1¼ hours. We believe this is long enough for children as well as the time limitations in accommodating all of our teams on the ground. Gordon Barnard Reserve may also be used as a training facility on some nights. Your coach or team manager will confirm training arrangements once the ground roster has been completed.

Team Managers – Each team requires a volunteer who will essentially run that team. The Team Manager duties include preparation of rosters for duties, responsible accurate completion of match day paperwork, preparation (or delegation) of match reports for the website and recording games played for each player. This is a very important role and we do expect all parents of the team to cooperate with and assist the Team Manager with his/her role to ensure the smooth running of the team.

Team Placement –The Football department allocates children to teams each year according to age groups. Please refer to our policy document on Team Selection which is available on our website.

Uniform – As mentioned previously, the Club provides a Cobra jumper for each team member. Each player will need footy shorts (Red for home games, and White for away games), as well as long red footy socks, socks and

shorts are available from the Club at very competitive prices, please see our website for more details. All boys are required to have football boots for training and games as well. Damaged stops will require replacement before the child can play. The Club also provides a hoodie for every new playing member of the Club. Players will be encouraged and expected to wear this uniform to and after games or at anytime where they may be representing the Club in an off field capacity.

Umpires – It is obvious that umpires are essential for a game of football to proceed. Increasingly, the YJFL is finding it difficult to recruit enough umpires. One of the deterrents in the recruitment and retention process has been the exposure of umpires to verbal abuse and intimidating behaviour of overzealous parents and spectators. Of course umpires make mistakes sometimes – but so do our children (our players). They are only human! Accordingly, we implore our Cobra supporters to respect the efforts of umpires and that they are essential for the success of junior football and for the very advent of the game. YJFL umpires are quite well remunerated and if anybody is interested in becoming one, please contact our Director of Football – Paul Townsend.

Voting – Currently a system of 5-4-3-2-1 is applicable. This is carried out by three people for every game. Two coaching staff and one *rostered* parent issue votes during the home & away season. The final result is used for team awards.

Web site – The Club’s website includes updated match results, ladders, fixtures, newsletters, ground location maps, sponsorship advertising, uniform ordering details and links to other sites.

We’re Not Playing for Sheep Stations – Junior football is for fun, participation and self esteem. Winning at all costs is not the objective!

Xmas – A quite period for Junior Football.

Yarra Junior Football League -- The YJFL (www.yarrajfl.org.au) is one of the largest junior football leagues in Australia with almost 9000 players, 40 clubs and 365 teams.

Zealousness – How we should all be feeling for a new Season of Junior Football!

Contact Details of all club officials are on the Club Officials page of the CJFC website