DECEMBER 2023

FOOTBALLISTIQ

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW LAMBTON FC JUNIORS

HOT NEWS



COUNCIL PUTS BRAKES ON NOVO CHANGE ROOM UPGRADES

In a development to the change room upgrades project at Novocastrian Park, Council recently informed the Club that they shall not allow the commencement of the project on the planned date, which was November 2023.
There is to be a delay to the project of at least 12 months, according to CN estimations.
This is a disappointing situation.
We shall do our best to ensure that the current change rooms are usable.

*** WE HAVE A NEW LIFE MEMBER ***

In some fantastic news, the Club's President Steve Manning was recently recognised for his many years of tireless dedication to the Club and to community football in general - Congratulations Steve.

SUMMER FAST 5'S PROVEN TO BE A BIG SUCCESS

THEY SEEK THEM HERE, THEY SEEK THEM THERE....

OUR VALUES, VISION AND MISSION

New Lambton FC Juniors has adopted a set of Values to guide Club behaviour:

1. Wellbeing: We develop and promote a safe and supportive environment
2. Excellence: We strive for quality and improvement in everything we do
3. Integrity: We know and do what is right
4. Respect: We respect diverse views and opinions and act with integrity, and treat others as we expect to be treated

Our **WEIR Values** (Wellbeing, Excellence, Integrity and Respect) underpin everything we do as a Club, as well as how we expect all our players, volunteers and others to engage with one another and the community. Our Values help set our Club's Vision and Mission Statement.

Vision

For New Lambton FC Juniors to be the leading and most respected local community football club and to support and promote football to ensure it is the largest and most popular sport for males and females.

Mission

1. To provide for all our members a Club run to the highest standard, without limitation as to age, race, religion or gender.
2. To improve the publicity of, and public perception of, amateur football at the Club level, so as to foster the continued prosperity of the sport.
3. To encourage and assist new and current players wishing to participate in organised amateur football.
4. To provide high-quality facilities for the benefit of all our members and the wider community.
5. To provide a progression pathway for all our members, from grass-roots through to the highest level of football available.
6. To do all these things whilst having regard for the amateur nature of our membership, and therefore keeping Club / Player costs at the lowest possible level.

New Lambton FC Juniors understands the value of diversity, equity and inclusion and expects its members to treat each other and members of the community with dignity and respect. We are committed to creating an inclusive Club culture where everyone feels respected, valued and safe to contribute their opinions and talents to the success of the organisation so that we can drive positive community outcomes. We value diverse styles, experiences, and perspectives. People from diverse backgrounds (including but not limited to, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, people with diverse gender identities and sexualities, people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, people with disability, and veterans) are welcome.

MEGAN PAYNE - WINNER OF THE 2023 NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL GAIL MORRIS AWARD



At the recent Newcastle Football Annual Dinner and awards night, our very own Megan Payne took out the top award.
The Newcastle Football Gail Morris Award was presented to Megan in recognition of her dedication to Newcastle Football and other Member Clubs.
Megan is always prepared to assist anyone who asks, and always goes above and beyond. Megan does so much work behind the scenes that often goes unnoticed, and it is fantastic that Newcastle Football has chosen Megan as the recipient of the Gail Morris Award for 2023. Congratulations - an accolade well deserved.

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

Our community is made up of people with diverse experiences and perspectives – and so should we be! We want to be a Club of choice for people from all walks of life, not just because it's the right thing to do, but because it makes sense.
New Lambton FC Juniors is committed to making Inclusion, Diversity & Equity (IDE) at our Club a priority.
Check our website for more information.

We want to create an inclusive Club culture where everyone feels respected, safe and valued so they can be themselves and fully contribute their opinions and perspectives to the success of the Club and the wider community.
We are developing our first Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (IDE) Strategy. The IDE Strategy outlines six diversity focus areas, which are traditionally linked to systemic barriers and disadvantages in the workplace:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement
- Accessibility
- Cultural and Linguistic Diversity
- Females / Gender Equity
- LGBTIQ+ Inclusion
- Youth Inclusion

SUMMER FOOTBALL FAST 5'S

Our Summer Fast 5's competition started off with a bang on Monday 16 October and wrapped up on Wednesday 6 December.
We had over 200 enthusiastic players who had a fantastic time over 8 action-packed rounds.
The whole series was a resounding success, and the feedback we received was very positive.
We will be looking to do something in the pre-season, stay tuned for more information.



MEMBER PROTECTION - CHILD SAFETY

Keeping children safe is everyone's business

Our Club is a child safe organisation. We need to ensure that we all systematically:

- Create conditions to reduce the likelihood of children being harmed
- Create conditions that increase the likelihood of identifying and reporting harm
- Respond appropriately to disclosures, allegations and suspicions of harm

The following values are at the heart of our Club's approach that prioritises children's safety:

- The best interests of children and their protection from harm is paramount
- Child abuse is not tolerated and must not happen
- Children's rights are understood and respected
- Concerns about child safety raised by children and their parents and carers are acted on
- Reporting abuse is not obstructed or prevented

All allegations of child abuse should be referred to our Club's administrator, Child Safe Officer, complaints handler or our Member Protection Information Officer.
An allegation of serious or criminal abuse requires urgent action – contact your child protection authority or the police immediately.
Less serious / urgent allegations should be actioned within 24 hours.
Although incidents may seem minor, they may represent "the tip of the iceberg" and must be reported.
Appropriate record keeping is very important in these matters.

THEY SEEK THEM HERE, THEY SEEK THEM THERE, OR, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Are you passionate about making a difference in your community?
- Do you want to be part of an exciting and vibrant team?
- Look no further – with just a few hours a week, you can be part of positive change.
- Your Committee is already starting work on season 2024 and part of the huge task ahead is to call for volunteers for the 2024 season.
- Your Club is calling for dedicated volunteers like you to join our family.
- Who We Need – we welcome volunteers of all ages and backgrounds who share a love for football. Whether you're a mum, dad, carer, brother, sister, coach, referee, event organiser or simply eager to support your Club, we want YOU!
- What You'll Do – a little or a lot – whatever suits!
- Join us in fostering community spirit through the beautiful game.
- Click on the link below to kickstart your football journey today and to look at the various roles and jobs that are available, and put your details down. Many of the jobs can be shared, so they are not something that you need to commit to for every weekend.
- Link: Volunteers Needed or go to our Stack TeamApp site
- For more information, contact us at vicepresident@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au
- Together, we'll score big and create lasting memories.

CLUB END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

New Lambton FC Juniors Christmas Raffle 2023

Have you got your tickets in our raffle yet?

MAJOR PRIZE

Win a wonder-filled $250K First Prize Pack

- Closes 9pm (AEST) Thu 14 Dec 2023
- Drawn 10am (AEST) Fri 15 Dec 2023

You could be driving away with the incredible Audi Q5 Sportback SLine which includes endless high-tech features and luxury, valued at over $118,000! Featuring a panoramic tinted sunroof, 7-speed gearbox, Park Assist and keyless entry and start, your next road trip or drive around town will be a breeze!

This luxury car plus over $131K in cashable gold could be at your fingertips with a $10 ticket!

PLAYING STRIP 2024

The ongoing development of our 2024 playing, training and away strips is an exciting time for our Club, our supporters and participants as well as our sponsorship partners. We have modernised our playing strip, whilst still ensuring we keep a strong focus on our roots. Our away strip has also been adjusted to keep us fresh, modern and relevant. We are also introducing a training shirt that will be distributed to all members (along with a playing shirt, shorts and socks) as part of the registration.
Stay tuned for early next year for the big reveal!

CLUB PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We would like to thank all of our Club supporters, partners and sponsors.
We appreciate greatly the support they provide to our Club - if it wasn't for businesses such as theirs, things would be much more challenging for us than they are. We thank them all for their support of the New Lambton FC Juniors and please make sure to support them wherever possible.
Our Club is a suburban, grass-roots, not-for-profit, community-focussed local football club and we have over 900 members, nearly 300 of whom are females and we also have a contingent who identify as having a disability.
We have been working hard to make improvements to our participant growth opportunities, facilities and our game day experience, and within the next 6 months you will see a refreshed playing and training strip, new practice and playing equipment, new portable electronic scoreboards as well as a completely new, expanded storage area.
Our projects aim to make the club more inclusive and welcoming, and we have already received positive feedback and support from Newcastle Football and Northern NSW Football.
We already have confirmed a number of our current partners, and we thank them for their ongoing support. We also will be welcoming several exciting new partners in 2024, which we shall be announcing shortly.
We are eager to continue to explore potential partnerships between our Club and local businesses and look forward to the possibility of working together to achieve our shared goals. This is a good opportunity for local businesses to connect at a local level with one of Newcastle's largest community football clubs, giving them excellent reach and visibility to the community at a local, suburban level.
If you are considering supporting your Club for season 2024 (and beyond!) please reach out to us - we would love to catch up to confirm your support.
Link: Partnership Packages
Contact us at: supporter@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

FEMALES IN FOOTBALL AT NEW LAMBTON FC JUNIORS

Females at our Club are important for many reasons:

1. **Equality and Inclusivity:** Ensuring females are included in football promotes gender equality and inclusivity. It ensures that both genders have equal opportunities to participate in and enjoy the sport.
2. **Talent and Skill:** Females can be highly skilled and talented football players. By participating, they not only showcase their abilities but also contribute to the overall quality and competitiveness of the sport.
3. **Inspiration:** Female football players serve as role models for aspiring athletes. Their achievements inspire girls and women to pursue their passion for football and other sports, breaking gender stereotypes and encouraging them to strive for excellence.
4. **Health and Fitness:** Football is an excellent way for females to stay active and maintain good physical health. Participation in sports has numerous physical and mental health benefits, and encouraging females to engage in football helps promote a healthy lifestyle.
5. **Teamwork and Leadership:** Football, like many team sports, teaches valuable life skills such as teamwork, communication, and leadership. Encouraging females to participate in football helps them develop these skills, which are applicable in many aspects of life.
6. **International Representation:** Female football players can progress to represent their countries on the international stage, no different to their male counterparts. This contributes to national pride and fosters a sense of unity and identity among supporters.
7. **Social Impact:** The presence of females in football continues to challenge societal norms and stereotypes related to gender roles. It helps promote a more inclusive and diverse society by breaking down barriers and encouraging acceptance of individuals based on their skills and passion rather than their gender.

In summary, females in football are important for promoting equality, showcasing talent, inspiring others, fostering a healthy lifestyle, developing life skills and making a positive social impact.

The Committee is committed to ensuring the Club is fully inclusive and to that end, one of our priority tasks is to establish a Female Consultative Group (FCG).You can get more information or provide feedback regarding the FCG via:
info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

We have some very special programs planned for our female contingent in season 2024 and onwards.

Stay tuned for more information, coming soon!

PLAY FOOTBALL FOR NLFCJ IN 2024



Our focus is ensuring all members are engaged, supported and encouraged. The Club is committed to working towards Football Australia's gender equity target of 50% by 2027. This provides a timeline to work towards whilst also aligning with the playing together pillar of FA's Legacy 2023 document. Our goal is growing the female membership from 30% to 50%.
As we prepare for the upcoming season, we're excited to announce our ambitious plans to build on the massive success of our 2023 campaign. We're committed to further expanding and strengthening our Club, providing an unparalleled platform for young players to develop their skills and passion for the sport.
Want to continue to join us on this exciting journey?
Know someone who wants to come and play for us?

Express your interest by filling out the form linked below – formal 2024 registrations are open in early January 2024.

If you're a full team seeking a new challenge, you are also welcome.
Don't miss out on the opportunity to continue to be a part of our Club for the upcoming 2024 season!

Link: Expressions of Interest for 2024

OUR CHOSEN CHARITIES

Being a community, family-focussed Club, we feel that supporting charities is a meaningful way for the Club to contribute to positive societal changes, express empathy, and address pressing issues. Charitable support and contributions play a vital role in creating a more compassionate and equitable world.

Our Club's chosen charities are Got Your Back Sista and Black Dog Institute.

GOT YOUR BACK SISTA

Got Your Back Sista provide support services to women and children who are experiencing or have escaped domestic violence. They run a variety of programs, special projects, fundraising events, campaigns and their own second-hand shop. They also empower women to thrive by running courses and programs to rebuild their confidence, self-esteem, physical and emotional wellbeing and create pathways to study and employment.
Their services are provided within the Hunter and Taree Regions with a vision to expand to selected regional centres in NSW in the near future.
Click the link above to find out more about how they help women in our communities.

BLACK DOG INSTITUTE

1 in 5 of us will experience symptoms of mental illness in any given year. In Australia that's around 5 million people. And roughly 60% of these people won't seek help.
As the only medical research institute in Australia to investigate mental health across the lifespan, BDI's aim is to create a mentally healthier world for everyone.
They do this through "translational" research. Integrating their research studies, education programs, digital tools and apps, clinical services, and public resources to discover new solutions, foster connections and create real-world change.
Their partnerships with people with lived experience and others in the mental health sector enables them to drive evidence-informed change in mental health.
Click the link above to find out more about how they help women in our communities.

THE XI STANDARDS OF RESPECT

The XI Standards are built on the concept of RESPECT. Respect for the game and respect for each other. They aim to build a safe and inclusive environment for everyone to participate in our sport.
The XI Standards are behaviours that everyone who participates in our game are encouraged and expected to uphold. We all have a responsibility to provide a positive, safe, and welcoming environment for each other in our game.

Link: FA'S XI Standards of Respect

Below are the XI Standards we live by in our proud football community.
I: We are inclusive and unifying. We are committed to equality and creating an environment free from any form of discrimination.
II: We respect the referee's decision. We acknowledge that match officials may make mistakes, but we do not call into question their integrity, abuse or belittle them.
III: We make safety and welfare our priority. We do not engage in, or allow others to engage in, activities that put the health and safety of participants at risk.
IV: We encourage others and promote enjoyment of the game. We provide only positive words of encouragement from the sideline. We do not put undue pressure on children, and we do not promote a "win at all costs" mentality.
V: We behave appropriately. We do not engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive behaviour or language.
VI: We play fairly. We do not cheat. We play by the rules and the expected standards of fair play.
VII: We are good sports. We respect good play whether from our team or the opposition.
VIII: We respect equipment and property. We do not damage property and we look after our facilities and those of our opponents.
IX: We compete to the best of our ability. We train and play with enthusiasm and we help each other to maximise and reach our potential.
X: We uphold the integrity and honesty of the sport. We do not engage in dishonest or corrupt practices.
XI: We hold each other to these Standards. We lead by example and we call out poor behaviour when we see it.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

New Lambton FC Juniors and Football Australia aims to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all Members participating in football.
Everyone involved in our sport should be treated with respect and dignity and be free to participate without being discriminated against, harassed, bullied or abused.

Link: FA's Anti-Discrimination

New Lambton FC Juniors and Football Australia are committed to ensuring that football is an inclusive sport for all Members and that any form of Discrimination is not acceptable in our sport.
Everyone should be able to enjoy participating in football regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, cultural or religious background or sexual orientation, or other attributes that may lead to any person feeling excluded or isolated, and have a safe, positive and inclusive experience.
This is why Football Australia has developed this National Anti-Discrimination Policy as part of its Member Protection Framework.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

New Lambton FC Juniors and Football Australia aims to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all Members participating in football. Everyone involved in our sport should be treated with respect and dignity and be free to participate without being discriminated against, harassed, bullied or abused.

Link: FA'S Bullying and Harassment

New Lambton FC Juniors and Football Australia is committed to ensuring that football is an inclusive sport for all Members and that any form of Bullying and Harassment is not acceptable in our sport.
Everyone should be able to enjoy participating in football and have a safe, positive and inclusive experience that is free from any form of Bullying and / or Harassment.
Follow the link to download the full Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy or explore some of the resources to find out how complaints under the Member Protection Framework are handled in football.

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

New Lambton FC Juniors is a One Star Game Changer Club as well as a Level 3 accredited Good Sports Club?

Club Changer is Football Australia's Club Development Program which aims to protect and enhance our clubs, make them stronger and more resilient, lead them in building welcoming and inclusive cultures, and educate them on positive environments for players, coaches, volunteers, and officials while planning for long term viability and success.
The priority focus of Club Changer in northern NSW remains firmly on increasing female participation through the increased interest in the community created by the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup and the ongoing success of the Matildas ahead of the 2024 Olympic Games.
Club Changer accredited clubs are leading the charge with unprecedented connection to programs and services targeting female participation. Summer Football, MiniTillies kick off programs, Kick-on for Women and Female Leadership programs are providing the opportunities for clubs to invest in their club's future.

Good Sports is an Australia-wide program that supports and inspires community sporting clubs to set up a better environment for players, volunteers, supporters and officials. We help clubs tackle tricky topics such as alcohol, drugs, smoking / vaping, mental health and safe transport.
The online program is designed to help busy volunteers make a positive difference, in less time and with less stress. The program takes the guesswork out of policy writing, as well as complying with legal requirements and your duty of care.
Good Sports has been helping build strong community sporting clubs across Australia for over 20 years. Today more than 11,000 clubs from over 100 sporting codes are proud to be a part of the Good Sports team.
Being part of Good Sports shows our community that our club is a welcoming place, helping to bring in and keep members and volunteers.The program is relevant for all Australian sports clubs, with a program covering mental health support, smoking management, safe transport, and illegal drugs.





OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

McGrath

SPORTS CLIQUE AUSTRALASIA

Adam's FAMILY MEATS

Laser Plumbing & Electrical

MACQUARIE PHYSIOTHERAPY

Abe's Audio

OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

BG&E RESOURCES

Sobelle Living

hgp hunter gourmet pizza New Lambton

Bakers Delight

Access Solutions NSW Pty ltd
disability access consultants

BrainSave TMS

THE FINAL WHISTLE

As the year draws to a close, we reflect on the incredible journey our football community has undertaken together. It has been a year filled with exciting matches, unforgettable moments, and the unwavering passion that binds us all.

All of our players and collective teams have showcased exceptional skill, passion, resilience and determination, with a number making the finals and some bringing home grand final wins and making us all proud.

Football has the incredible power to unite people both locally and worldwide. Our community has grown stronger, transcending borders and cultures, fostering a sense of camaraderie that goes beyond the pitch.

This year has witnessed the rise of promising young talents who are shaping the future of the beautiful game. Their passion and dedication inspire us all.

We've continued to engage with our local communities, organising various events, football clinics, small sided games and training programs. Together, we've made a positive impact off the field as well.

As we gather with loved ones during this festive season, let's take a moment to appreciate the joy that football brings into our lives. May the spirit of the game fill your hearts with warmth and happiness.

Looking Ahead, the new year brings fresh opportunities and challenges. Let's carry the lessons of 2023 into 2024, fostering sportsmanship, teamwork, and the sheer love of the game.

From Steve, Megan, Dave and the rest of the committee, wishing you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a New Year filled with endless goals - both on and off the field!

Cheers to another fantastic year of football!

