JULY 2024

FOOTBALLISTIQ

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW LAMBTON FC JUNIORS AND ARNETTS FC

HOT NEWS







WET WEATHER POSTPONES MORE GAMES & TRAINING - HOW NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL IS PLANNING TO SAVE THE 2024 SEASON

With nearly 600mm of rain across the first 3 months of the 2024 community football season, there have been more games washed-out than have been played.
The increased rainfall coupled with a lack of funding for under-cover fields and / or artificial turf pitches as well as inadequate drainage installed at many local facilities has resulted in over 1,000 games being postponed across Newcastle local community football.
Despite a significant uptake in football in 2024, sub-optimal facilities and increased rainfall may see some participants look to other sports in seasons ahead (more inside).

NEW CLUB SIGNAGE IN PLACE AT NOVOCASTRIAN PARK

FIELD PLAYABILITY AT AN ALL-TIME LOW DUE TO WET WEATHER AND SUB-OPTIMAL FACILITIES



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.

DID YOU KNOW THAT MOST OF THE GRAPHICS IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE "CLICKABLE" WHEN VIEWED ELECTRONICALLY - CLICK PICTURES FOR MORE INFORMATION

LET'S HEAR FROM NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL

In an effort to ensure that there is clear, open and fully-informed communication, we felt it beneficial to give Newcastle Football a voice in our monthly newsletter.

Each month we are going to do our best to include some feedback from Newcastle Football. Chris Brain, Newcastle Football's recently appointed General Manager, has graciously found some time in his busy schedule to give us some feedback on four areas or interest: wet weather, his recent appointment, the status of game officials and also an update on Squadi.

1. The ongoing wet weather, the number of game and round postponements and what Newcastle Football is doing to help Member Clubs manage the situation. Chris said: "I am currently in dialogue with our Zones, we are all in consultation with our Local Council. Northern NSW Football is also considering requests from me around potentially assisting Community Clubs to schedule games at LMRFF. I am working on a conceptual plan around identifying grounds, (that can cope with drainage better than others), to try and create wet weather hubs, whilst those grounds that struggle with drainage are part of an identification strategy that will hopefully educate and empower Clubs to improve their chances of getting on during wet weather by implementing maintenance programs and forward planning with the assistance of Council crews. Grants are something that Clubs compete for, I am experienced in the successful implementation of strategies and applications and I am here to help. I would like a similar collaborative approach to be on the table around hubs and grants. Volunteer Football Clubs with the same remit around the corner from each other fighting for the same dollar doesn't make sense. Stay tuned. Long term, our focus is ideally aligned to the creation of artificial surfaces, or at least one. This requires a number of discussions across key stakeholders, allowing of course for the financial cost, grants, location, Council assistance and suitable Return on Investment conditions. At last count, there are 40+ in the Sydney region. Based on a population benchmark, if comparing demographics and resources, we need at least 3 across all Zones, apart from LMRFF. We are not greedy, 1 will do."

melt GELATO

Proud partner of the
New Lambton FC Juniors
Melting Moment Awards
Locals supporting locals
Find us 1/89 Regent Street New Lambton Follow us meltgelato_newlambton

melt GELATO

LET'S HEAR FROM NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL

2. The details of the engagement process that was run regarding the recent appointment of Chris Brain as Newcastle Football's General Manager, and what changes and / or benefits Member Clubs can expect to come from Chris' appointment. Understandably, Chris deferred this question to Steve Cucumanovski (Board Chair). We asked the question to Steve, who confirmed that whilst there had been no formal recruitment process undertaken, Newcastle Football had received many expressions of interest from parties who had heard that the role of General Manager was vacant; no applicants were approached proactively. At a point in time the Board felt they had received sufficient numbers of expressions of interest and that they had a reasonable pool of persons from which a suitable candidate could be sourced. As such, an assessment process based on the expressions of interest received was conducted by the Board. The Board is confident that a fair and equitable process has been conducted and they have the best candidate for the job.

3. The current allocation process of game officials (centre-referees and line-persons), and if Newcastle Football is happy with the current status. If not, what is being considered into the future to assist Member Clubs manage the adequate resourcing of game officials. Chris told us: "One of the glaring issues that I have identified when returning to a community / grassroots environment is that we basically have a 50% shortage of officials to accommodate competition fixtures, let alone Mini Roos where coaches and parents or young players can assume Game Leader roles. In any business, this skill gap percentage would be considered dire. I am already seeking feedback from Zones around an urgent meeting to address the shortage and to drive an environment of attraction, benefit and safety for aspiring officials. I am most surprised how many referees from years past at varying levels no longer officiate, mostly due to issues of abuse and a lack of support. Hopefully, protection mechanisms, outstanding Coaching with Brad and Zero Tolerance strategies can see us attract some back. This is not a quick fix, your newsletter highlights the work that Clubs are now doing to create panels of Club Officials. How sustainable this is remains to be seen."

4. The implementation of Squadi (the good, the bad and the ugly), and any feedback for Member Clubs. Chris said: "This is an interesting one. From what I can see it can be a fabulous tool for Clubs but implementation, training, system gliches, and future enhancements all seem to be the narrative of most users. I am yet to properly get my head around it, but in any business, with major investment into any operational programs there has to be a rollout, a review, a change process and consultation with users. That will be my focus in the coming weeks. Steph and Kaitlyn will be crucial assets in all of the above. They are excellent at what they do. I am reliant on them helping me to navigate most things, but especially Squadi."

LET'S HEAR FROM NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL

As we all know the rain this year has had a major impact on the 2024 season.

The Interdistrict Competition always aims to play all the games each season from MiniRoos through to Adults. This week the Interdistrict Administrators met and compiled a strategy which will hopefully see all competition games played this season.

Currently there is a Spare Wet Weather Weekend scheduled for:

- 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th July
- Round 3 was allocated to the weekend of 29 and 30 June.

Both Round 6 and Round 7 were almost complete washouts, so it was decided as per Regulations to add an additional Wet Weather Weekend into the season for the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th August thus pushing back the Final Series for 12's through to Adult competitions by 1 week.

At writing, there are 1,188 MiniRoos games and 663 Competition games to be reset over the coming weeks and weekends. This means there will be mid-week dates and Sundays used to allocate these washed out games.

Please find below the updated playing calendar showing the introduction of the additional Wet Weather Weekend for MiniRoos and Interdistrict Competitions, and the revised Final Series dates for Interdistrict Competitions.

2024 MiniRoos & Interdistrict Fixture Dates

Round	Playing Dates
14	9th, 10th, 11th Aug
ADDITIONAL Wet Weather Replay	16th, 17th, 18th July
Semi Final	23rd, 24th, 25th Aug
Final	30th, 31st Aug, 1st Sept
GRAND FINAL	6th, 7th, 8th Sept

KENTAN MACHINERY

KENTAN MACHINERY

A's ARNETTS FC

Given our luck so far this season with fields often closed and risk of rain often looming in the background, Arnetts FC have made the decision to play a number of their games on the synthetic fields at The Concept.

The Concept is an indoor facility located at 16 George Street, Highfields and caters perfectly for our Arnetts TC teams.

For those of you who may not understand who Arnetts FC is, they are a disability specific branch of New Lambton FC Juniors. Arnetts FC cater for school aged players, creating an opportunity for young people with disability to enjoy all the benefits of a team sport.

Always remember - it's not too late to join the fun, as a player or as a volunteer!

To find out about Arnetts FC, contact them at: **arnetts@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**



NOVOCASTRIAN ELECTRICAL

HEARTBEAT OF FOOTBALL

The Heartbeat of Football charity has been on a long yet rewarding journey since 2015, when Andy witnessed his Forest Rangers FC teammate Matt Richardson die from a cardiac arrest playing over 35's football. Two days later his good friend, Peter Katholos (ex-NSL and Socceroos player) witnessed his Belmore Hercules teammate die the same way.

It was obvious that something needed to be done to stop these deaths at football grounds.

Heartbeat of Football (HoF), a not-for-profit organisation, was established in early 2016 by media personality and football enthusiast Andy Paschalidis as a direct result of these events.

Heartbeat of Football promotes healthy hearts in sport via:

- Awareness & Education: player, participant & community programs
- Prevention: minimisation of health risks through simple screening checks
- Action: "rescue-ready" defibrillators at all sporting fields across Australia

In less than 10 minutes, nurses from the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, measure a person's blood pressure, total cholesterol and blood sugar levels, and provide information on modifiable risk factors and healthy heart habits.

Blood pressure, total cholesterol and blood sugar levels can provide insight into your cardiovascular health, and whether you should make protective lifestyle changes.

On Saturday 13 July at Novocastrian Park New Lambton, there will be free testing for blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar with the results and a report delivered on the spot - it only takes 8 - 10 minutes and may save your life.

There will be 2 nurses present - starting at 9:00am, and going for 4 hours.













COMING UP IN JULY

JULY 6 & 7 - ROUND 10 - INDIGENOUS ROUND Celebrate and recognise the contributions of First Nations members of our community with Indigenous Round, Which is happening July 5 – 7 coinciding with national NAIDOC Week. With a deep commitment to diversity and inclusion, Indigenous Round provides an opportunity to recognise the history, culture, and achievements of First Nations participants.

JULY 13 - REPLAY ROUND - HEARTBEAT OF FOOTBALL Free testing for blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar with the results and a report delivered on the spot - it only takes 8 - 10 minutes and may save your life. There will be 2 nurses present - starts at 9:00am, and goes for 4 hours.

JULY 13 & 14 - REPLAY ROUND - MYFOOTDR A reminder that this weekend we will also have one of our supporters MyFootDr attending Novocastrian Park across this weekend to offer a range of services including advice on blister prevention, strapping and / or injury management. There will also be a free boot fitting / assessment to all NLFC players and a discount for family and friends of NLFC to be used during the 2024 season. Please make sure you come across and talk to Brad and his team.

JULY 27 & 28 - ROUND 12 - MENTAL HEALTH ROUND Many of us know that socialising, playing sports, getting exercise and plenty of fresh air are great proven activities for bettering our physical and mental health. Our commitment is to create a safe, healthy and inclusive environment, where players, refs, coaches and families can watch out for each other and interact together respectfully. This means speaking up against bullying, treating others with respect and promoting football for all. As part of raising awareness for mental health, Northern NSW Football runs an annual Mental Health Round. We are part of a football team and community. This means we support each other, watch out for each other and have each other's backs. Our diversity only makes us stronger, and our strength will be an example to follow for the next generation.

JULY 31 - TEAM MANAGER AND COMMITTEE MEETING Our Club is run by a Committee which is made up of volunteers who are committed to the ongoing success of this Club. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all Team Managers to come along to the regular monthly Club Committee meetings – if the Team Manager cannot make the meeting, please send a team delegate. This will allow your team to have direct access to the Committee and be involved in the decision making of your Club.
7:00PM - 9:00PM - CLUB KOTARA - 2 HOWELL ST KOTARA

the GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL EST. 1863



the GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL EST. 1863

NAIDOC WEEK JULY 7 - 14

As you would be aware NAIDOC Week is fast approaching and will be held between Sunday July 7th through to Sunday July 14th, 2024.

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. You can support and get to know your local Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander communities through activities and events held across the country.

This important annual week which commenced in 1975, has its origins going back as far as January 26th 1938 and celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples.

1920 – 1930: Before the 1920s, Aboriginal rights groups boycotted Australia Day (26 January) in protest against the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians. By the 1920s, they were increasingly aware that the broader Australian public were largely ignorant of the boycotts. If the movement were to make progress, it would need to be active.

Several organisations emerged to fill this role, particularly the Australian Aborigines Progressive Association (AAPA) in 1924 and the Australian Aborigines League (AAL) in 1932. Their efforts were largely overlooked, and due to police harassment, the AAPA abandoned their work in 1927.

In 1935, William Cooper, founder of the AAL, drafted a petition to send to King George V, asking for special Aboriginal electorates in Federal Parliament. The Australian Government believed that the petition fell outside its constitutional responsibilities.

1938: On Australia Day, 1938, protestors marched through the streets of Sydney, followed by a congress attended by over a thousand people. One of the first major civil rights gatherings in the world, it was known as the Day of Mourning.

Following the congress, a deputation led by William Cooper presented Prime Minister Joseph Lyons with a proposed national policy for Aboriginal people. This was again rejected because the Government did not hold constitutional powers in relation to Aboriginal people.

After the Day of Mourning, there was a growing feeling that it should be a regular event. In 1939 William Cooper wrote to the National Missionary Council of Australia to seek their assistance in supporting and promoting an annual event.

More information about the **Day of Mourning** can be found at the **AIATSIS website**.

NAIDOC WEEK JULY 7 - 14

1940 – 1955: From 1940 until 1955, the Day of Mourning was held annually on the Sunday before Australia Day and was known as Aborigines Day. In 1955 Aborigines Day was shifted to the first Sunday in July after it was decided the day should become not simply a protest day but also a celebration of Aboriginal culture.

1956 – 1990: Major Aboriginal organisations, state and federal governments, all supported the formation of, the National Aborigines Day Observance Committee (NADOC). At the same time, the second Sunday in July became a day of remembrance for Aboriginal people and their heritage.

In 1972, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs was formed, as a major outcome of the 1967 referendum.

In 1974, the NADOC committee was composed entirely of Aboriginal members for the first time. The following year, it was decided that the event should cover a week, from the first to second Sunday in July.

In 1984, NADOC asked that National Aborigines Day be made a national public holiday, to help celebrate and recognise the rich cultural history that makes Australia unique. While this has not happened, other groups have echoed the call.

1991 – Present: With a growing awareness of the distinct cultural histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, NADOC was expanded to recognise Torres Strait Islander people and culture. The committee then became known as the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC). This new name has become the title for the whole week, not just the day.

The National NAIDOC Committee respectfully acknowledges the now defunct and inaccurate term 'Aborigines', whilst retaining the term in our title due to historic use by our Elders in establishing this week of commemoration in 1938. As at 1967 the ongoing registered title of the Committee became the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee.



2024 NSW COMMUNITY SPORTS AWARDS

New Lambton Football Club would like to congratulate Lambton Junior Soccer Club Secretary and Newcastle Football Life Member Jenny Bailey on recently receiving the Distinguished Long Service Award from Sport NSW. Jenny has been involved at Lambton Juniors for 34 years and has been a great asset to the Football Community around Lambton but also in Newcastle as a whole.

Ms Bailey recently received the Distinguished Long Service Award from Sport NSW at the recent awards night at CommBank Stadium in Sydney, where outstanding achievements and contributions to community sport in NSW were recognised.

The Lambton Jaffas secretary and life member, who has been a volunteer and served on the club's committee in various roles for 34 years, was "shocked" and "humbled" by the award. "I started managing in 1990 when my son played and then I kept going and got involved in the committee side of it as assistant secretary and it just rolled from there," Ms Bailey said. "I just love the club and seeing the kids play, being out there and being active with sport."

Lambton Jaffas Junior Soccer Club president Nathan Errington said clubs only survived due to people like Ms Bailey. "When her son played she was involved in the committee through them and she continued to be a committee member, a secretary the whole way through," Mr Errington said. "She's one who goes above and beyond to make sure kids can play, the club's running well and is just an amazing worker. She's got the heart of gold to the club, to the community. Everyone knows her in the community and she's just a wonderful person to help the club. She supports all of the committee, especially me."



In 2017, Ms Bailey was also awarded life membership of Newcastle Football for her dedication and commitment to the club and football in general over many years. Sport NSW chairperson Chris Hall congratulated Ms Bailey on her award. "Volunteers such as Jenny are the backbone of grassroots and community sport and it is fitting these Distinguished Long Service award recipients are recognised and honoured."

Northern NSW Football nominated Ms Bailey for her award.

McGrath
McGrath Estate Agents New Lambton

BE A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

Trailblazers has shone a light on the incredible progress and persistent challenges in the journey toward gender equality in sports. Now that you've (hopefully) watched the film, it's time to turn inspiration into action. Here's how you can make a difference:

Take the Blaze A Trail Pledge
Join the movement for gender equality in sports by signing the **Blaze A Trail** pledge. This commitment will connect you with resources and opportunities to support and advocate for women in football. Your pledge is a powerful step towards creating a more inclusive and equitable sporting environment.

Complete the Trailblazers Survey
Your feedback is invaluable. Share your thoughts on "Trailblazers" and its impact by completing their **survey**. Your insights will help shape future initiatives and campaigns aimed at promoting gender equality in sports.

Get Involved with Women's Football
Whether you want to play, coach, or volunteer, there are numerous ways to get involved with women's football. Visit **Play Football** to find out how you can join your local club and contribute to the growth and success of women's football in your community.

Correct the Internet
Help ensure that the achievements of sportswomen are accurately represented online. Use the **Correct the Internet** tool to correct misinformation and ensure that female athletes receive the recognition they deserve.

Support and Promote Women's Sports
Attend games, watch broadcasts, and encourage others to do the same. The more support women's sports receive, the stronger the case for equal investment and media coverage. Check out upcoming matches for our **national teams**, the **A-League Women**, and other women's leagues.

Your actions matter. By taking these steps, you contribute to a movement that empowers women and girls in football, ensuring they have the opportunities and support to thrive.



JULY 2024

LOCALS SUPPORTING LOCALS

NEW LAMBTON FC JUNIORS DEVELOPMENT FUND

New Lambton FC Juniors is a not-for-profit incorporated community club that attends to the inclusion and development of grass-roots football players in our local community.

New Lambton FC Juniors is partnering with the Australian Sports Foundation to assist in raising funds for developing and improving participant entry pathways for the disabled, aged and disadvantaged, operational equipment and coaching and player development pathway programs.

Financial assistance through the New Lambton FC Juniors Development Fund will allow the club to implement improved access to the game of football at a grass-roots community level, continue its program to develop grass-roots talent, upgrade equipment and uniforms and continue the skill development of coaching staff.

Without the assistance of our volunteers, sponsors and the general community New Lambton FC Juniors would not be able to pursue our objectives of being a prospering football club of choice for football participants in the New Lambton and surrounding areas.

YOUR DONATION TO THIS PROJECT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

The Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) is the only deductible gift recipient for sport in Australia. This means that donations of $2 or more to approved projects on our website are tax deductible. Shortly after making your donation, you'll receive an official receipt from the ASF that you can use in your income tax return.

CLICK TO DONATE

www.newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au footballistiq@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS

The 2024 team photos were another huge success, and thanks so much to **Newcastle School Portraits** for all their time, patience and skills to make the photos sessions enjoyable.

Also, a HUGE thanks **Club Kotara** who hosted the two photo evenings - the newly refurbished function room is sensational!cTo all those families who supported **Club Kotara** - they greatly appreciate the community support.

Photos will be available shortly, and information will be distributed by the Club when photos are ready to be collected.

















WHAT MAKES A PLAYING FIELD SAFE?

To ensure a playing or training area is safe and playable, there are several safety and suitability factors must be considered. Here's an evaluation of the key aspects:

1. Surface Quality:

- Turf: If there is artificial turf and it is in good condition and suitable for football, it could be appropriate. Surfaces typically need to be smooth and provide adequate traction.
- Maintenance: Ensure the playing surface is well-maintained, free of debris, and has no uneven spots.

2. Gutters or Drains Surrounding a Field:

- Hazardous Edges: Any gutters, drains or other depressions close to the field can pose a significant tripping hazard or injury risk if players fall or slide into it.
- Protective Padding: Consider installing protective padding or barriers to cover any gutters, drains or other depressions, ensuring a safe perimeter around the playing area.

3. Dimensions and Markings:

- Correct Dimensions: Verify that the area meets the standard dimensions for any games or activities proposed.
- Markings: Proper markings (e.g. goal area, penalty area, centre circle, etc.) need to be painted or marked on the turf, appropriate to the activities proposed.

4. Goal Posts and Nets:

- Proper Equipment: Install game-specific goal posts with appropriate dimensions (e.g. 3 metres wide and 2 metres high) and ensure they are securely anchored.
- Padding: Ensure goal posts have adequate padding to prevent injuries.

5. Lighting:

- Adequate Lighting: Ensure the playing area is well-lit if the field will be used in low-light conditions. Proper lighting helps reduce the risk of accidents and improves visibility.

6. Safety Barriers:

- Run-off Area: Ensure there is enough space around the playing area for players to decelerate safely. If any gutters or drains restrict this space, additional protective measures may be needed.

7. Footwear:

- Shoe Compatibility: Ensure that players use appropriate footwear for the relevant type of turf to minimise the risk of slipping and injury.

8. Drainage:

- Water Management: Confirm that there is an effective drainage system is effective in preventing water pooling on the playing surface, which can make it slippery and hazardous.

9. Weather Considerations:

- Surface Conditions: Ensure the turf performs well under various weather conditions, particularly if the area is prone to rain.

By addressing these considerations, you can create a safer environment for football players and other athletes, especially if you are repurposing an area initially designed for a different sport.

WHERE ARE OUR PROJECTS UP TO?

Facility Upgrade: The major upgrades planned for the changing facilities at Novocastrian Park are still being worked on with Council. We continue to be hopeful the following is going to be completed prior to the 2025 season commencing:

- Gender-neutral change rooms, including separate shower and changing areas,
- Installation of a specific official's room with lockers, bathroom and changing area,
- A disability access bathroom, shower and change room,
- Wheel chair access to the canteen, change rooms and officials room.

Field Lighting Upgrades: The upgrades to the field lighting at Novocastrian Park are anticipated to commence within the next 8 weeks, and shall incorporate:

- Upgrades to light pole cross-arms,
- Fitment of LED lights,
- Upgrade to 200 lux lighting for games,
- Improved light direction and outer field illumination.

Field Drainage: The Club has been working on field drainage project plans for nearly 12 months with Council. A formal Drainage Plan has been submitted a number of times, and each time further detail has been required / requested by Council, or additional requirements have been added. We are hopeful that the final plan will be approved shortly, allowing us to commence Grant submissions. Estimated cost of field drainage (to cater for Competition and MiniRoos teams) is estimated at approx. $300,000 - Council have told the Club they have no money to contribute to the project.

FEMALE CONSULTATIVE GROUP

The Committee is committed to ensuring the Club is fully inclusive. To that end, one of our priority tasks is to establish a Female Consultative Group (FCG).

To be involved contact us via : **info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

Some of the key focus areas shall be:

1. Setting and monitoring goals and targets specifically relating to women and girls
2. Establishing a Female Football Club Ambassador
3. Establishing Club Female Development Coordinator program
4. Establish a Female Referee Mentoring program at Club level
5. Set strategies to ensure the Club aligns with FFA's Gender Equity Plan
6. Establish alternate participation opportunities (e.g. Kick On, Kick Off)
7. Grow the Club's female membership to 50%

We are a Good Sports club
GOOD SPORTS
INSPIRING A HEALTHIER SPORTING NATION

Adam's FAMILY MEATS

CLUB CHANGER

HOW BEST TO HANDLE RUDE BEHAVIOUR

As a spectator witnessing rude behaviour at a local sporting events, it's important to handle the situation with care to ensure your safety and maintain a positive atmosphere. Here are steps you can take:

1. Stay Calm and Assess the Situation

- Evaluate the Severity: Determine whether the rude behaviour is minor or potentially dangerous.
- Stay Calm: Keep your emotions in check to avoid escalating the situation.

2. Avoid Direct Confrontation

- Personal Safety: Your safety is paramount. Avoid engaging directly if the person appears aggressive or intoxicated.
- Indirect Response: Sometimes, simply moving away from the rude spectator can be the best immediate response.

3. Seek Assistance from the Club's Duty Officer / Committee

- Notify Game Duty Officer: Inform the Duty Officer about the rude behaviour. They are trained to handle such situations and can intervene appropriately.
- Provide Details: Give specific details about the behaviour and the location to help the Club address the issue quickly.

4. Use Non-Confrontational Communication

- If you decide to speak to the rude spectator directly, use non-confrontational language.
- Polite Request: Politely ask the person to stop the behaviour. For example, "Excuse me, could you please refrain from shouting? It's hard for us to enjoy the game."
- Stay Respectful: Maintain a respectful tone to avoid escalating the situation.

5. Encourage Group Support

- Collective Action: If other spectators are also disturbed, a collective request can sometimes be more effective. The group approach can deter rude behavior without needing a direct confrontation.
- Support Each Other: Stand together with other well-behaved spectators to show solidarity against the rude behaviour.

6**. Document the Incident**

- Record Details: If the behaviour is severe or persists, document the incident by noting down details like the time, location, and nature of the behaviour.
- Video Evidence: In some cases, discreetly recording the behaviour on your phone can provide evidence for authorities, but be mindful of privacy and legal considerations.

By following these steps, you can help manage and mitigate rude behaviour at local sporting events while ensuring your own safety and maintaining a positive environment for everyone.

GOOD SPORTS
INSPIRING A HEALTHIER SPORTING NATION

WE ARE A GOLD MEDAL ACCREDITED CLUB.

GOLD

WHAT MAKES A GOOD TEAM MANAGER?

A good community youth football team manager possesses a combination of personal qualities and a deep commitment to the development and well-being of the players.

1. Leadership and Mentorship

- Positive Role Model: Demonstrates good sportsmanship, integrity, and respect.
- Inspirational: Motivates and inspires young players, both individually and as a team.
- Decision-Making: Makes fair and informed decisions that prioritise the best interests of the players and the team.

2. Communication Skills

- Effective Communicator: Clearly conveys instructions, feedback, and encouragement.
- Active Listener: Listens to players' concerns / feedback, ensuring they feel heard and valued.
- Conflict Resolution: Mediates conflicts among players, parents, etc with tact and fairness.

3. Organisational Skills

- Planning: Efficiently plans and organises training sessions, matches, and team events.
- Time Management: Balances various tasks and ensures the team's schedule runs smoothly.
- Attention to Detail: Manages administrative tasks such as player registration, equipment inventory, and game day logistics.

4. Empathy and Patience

- Understanding: Recognises and respects individual needs and challenges of young players.
- Supportive: Provides a supportive and nurturing environment where players feel safe and encouraged to express themselves.
- Patience: Shows patience in helping players develop skills and confidence at their own pace.

5. Team Building and Inclusivity

- Team Spirit: Fosters a sense of camaraderie and teamwork among players, emphasising the importance of collaboration and mutual support.
- Inclusivity: Promotes an inclusive environment where all players, regardless of their background or skill level, feel welcome and valued.

6. Parental Engagement

- Collaboration: Works collaboratively with parents and guardians, keeping them informed and involved in their children's progress and the team's activities.

7. Continuous Improvement

- Lifelong Learner: Continually seeks to improve coaching skills and knowledge through training, workshops, and certifications.
- Feedback-Oriented: Welcomes and acts on feedback from players, parents, and peers to enhance the team's experience and performance.

By embodying these qualities, a community youth football team manager can create a positive, developmental, and enjoyable experience for all players, fostering a lifelong love for the sport.

ROBOLINE

SOLVD

CLUB REFEREES NEEDED - COMPETITION

Season 2024 has seen fewer official referees than ever appointed to our Competition matches (ages 12+) at both home and away games.

We are seeking to reach out to our community and see if we can establish a bigger pool of people willing to act as Club Referees to games where an official referee can't be appointed. This can be players, parents, family, friends or acquaintances - they don't need to otherwise play for NLFC.

We pay our club referees the full schedule fee (below).

If you have any leads, please email them to our Senior Referee Coordinator Ian: **ianbamford@exemail.com.au**

Please include name, age if (<18), contact details, times available (mid-week, Fri, Sat, Sun) and level they are comfortable with refereeing.

If we can't find anyone willing to referee a game, then it falls back on the home team to provide a referee.

We'd prefer to have a group of willing and prepared referees getting paid!

Follow this link for more information: **RESOURCES**

Competition		Referee	Assistant Referee (each)
Adult Competitions	All Age Men Division A	$72	$36
	All Age Men Other Divisions	$62	$31
	All Age Women Division A	$72	$36
	All Age Women Other Divisions	$62	$31
	Over 35 Men All Divisions	$62	$31
Junior Competitions	Under 20	$54	$27
	Under 18	$50	$25
	Under 17	$50	$25
	Under 16	$38	$19
	Under 15	$38	$19
	Under 14	$32	$16
	Under 13	$32	$16
	Under 12	$30	$15
	Miniroos Under 10 and 11	$20	N/A
	Miniroos Under 8 and 9	$14	N/A
Special Events	Match Fees for Special Events to be Determined by Northern NSW Football or Member Zones		

POSITIONS VACANT - CAN YOU HELP?

Our Club is run by a Committee which is made up of volunteers who are committed to the ongoing success of this Club – your Club, our Club.

We have a long list of tasks that need to be done throughout the year - and we need people to help.

Who can volunteer? People of all ages and abilities are welcome!

Some of those roles / duties are:

- Assistant Treasurer
- Assistant Registrar
- Assistant Secretary
- Volunteer Management Officer
- Game Day Management Officer
- General Committee Member
- Match day field set up and pack down
- Coaching teams in Community competitions (Junior or Senior)
- 'Green Team' - pitch and field management
- Infrastructure management - goal posts, nets, etc
- Game Day Canteen helpers and BBQ chefs
- Fundraising BBQ helpers (Bunnings, etc)

If you think you can help, please reach out: **info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

SOME BIG EVENTS COMING - STAY TUNED!

- Presentation Day - Junior Teams
- Presentation Day - Competition Teams
- Sponsor Appreciation Function
- Fast 5's Competition
- The Festival of Female Football
- And more.....
- All dates to be confirmed in next month's newsletter

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**.

CLUB KOTARA - LOCAL SOCIAL HUB

Club Kotara shares many similar values to our football Club - they are community-focussed, and their ethos of Community, Respect and Wellbeing aligns nicely with our club WEIR values of Wellbeing, Excellence, Integrity and Respect.

Club Kotara is proud of their history and is excited about the future. Located in the centre of Kotara at 2 Howell Street, they are a hub for events and activities the entire community can enjoy. Club Kotara loves to welcome everyone from retirees, families, friendship groups, community groups, schools and everyone in between.

The Barefoot Bistro is a family-friendly bistro open for lunch and dinner from Tuesday to Sunday. Their menu has something for everyone to enjoy and whether it's just a light snack or you're after the full deluxe experience with a three-course meal, their team are there to provide you with delicious food all year round.

The Club's OPENING HOURS are EVERYDAY from 10:00am – 10:00pm

The BISTRO is open for Lunch Service from 11:30am – 2:00pm and the Dinner Service is open on Monday – Friday: 5:00pm – 8:00pm and Saturday –Sunday: 4:00 – 8:00pm

Now more than ever Club Kotara needs the community to support them, and we are happy to do so - locals supporting locals.

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

A fascinating historical fact about local football in Newcastle is the story of the Newcastle KB United. Newcastle KB United was one of the original clubs in the National Soccer League (NSL), Australia's first national soccer competition, established in 1977.

Newcastle KB United and the Birth of Professional Soccer in Newcastle

Formation and Early Years:

- Inception: Newcastle KB United was founded in 1978 and became one of the pioneering clubs in the NSL. The establishment of the team marked Newcastle's significant entry into the national professional football scene.
- Community Support: The club quickly garnered strong community support, drawing large crowds to their games at the International Sports Centre (now McDonald Jones Stadium). The passionate local fanbase was a hallmark of Newcastle football culture.

Key Achievements:

- Crowd Record: In 1979, Newcastle KB United set a home attendance record for a Newcastle football match, with over 18,000 fans watching a game against Sydney City. This record highlighted the immense local enthusiasm for football.
- Star Players: The team featured several standout players, including Scottish international striker Bobby Charlton (not to be confused with the English legend), whose presence brought significant attention to the club and the league.

Challenges and Legacy:

- Financial Struggles: Despite the strong fan support, the club faced financial difficulties, which plagued many teams in the early years of the NSL. These challenges led to the team's rebranding and eventual dissolution in 1984.
- Enduring Impact: Although Newcastle KB United no longer exists, its legacy paved the way for future football development in this region. The community's enthusiasm for football continued, contributing to the establishment of the Newcastle Breakers and later the Newcastle Jets, who compete in the A-League.

Legacy and Influence

The story of Newcastle KB United is a testament to the deep-rooted football culture in Newcastle and the Hunter Region. The club's history reflects the challenges and triumphs of early professional football in Australia, and its impact is still felt in the local football community. Newcastle remains a stronghold for football in Australia, with the Newcastle Jets carrying the torch for professional football in the city.

This historical narrative not only highlights the rich football heritage of Newcastle but also underscores the enduring passion and support of the local community for the sport.

SHIN PADS - PLEASE TELL ME MORE.....

The idea for football shin pads originated from the sport of cricket. The innovation is credited to Sam Weller Widdowson, an English cricketer and footballer, who first adapted the use of shin pads from cricket to football.

Sam Weller Widdowson's Contribution

Background:

- Cricket Influence: In the 19th century, cricketers used shin pads to protect their legs from the impact of the hard cricket ball. These pads were usually made of leather and were designed to shield the shin area.
- Football Career: Sam Weller Widdowson was an active sportsman who played both cricket and football. He was notably associated with Nottingham Forest Football Club.

Innovation:

- Adapting Cricket Pads: In 1874, Widdowson decided to cut down a pair of his cricket pads and strap them to his legs during a football match to provide protection against kicks and tackles, which were common and often resulted in injuries.
- Initial Reception: Initially, Widdowson's innovation was met with skepticism and amusement. Teammates and opponents found the idea strange, and he even faced some ridicule.

Acceptance and Evolution:

- Gradual Adoption: Despite the initial reactions, the practical benefits of shin protection became apparent. As players saw the reduction in leg injuries, the use of shin pads began to spread.
- Evolution: Over time, the design of shin pads evolved to become more lightweight, comfortable, and effective. Materials improved from simple leather to modern plastics and composite materials, enhancing both protection and mobility.

Impact on the Game

The introduction of shin pads significantly impacted the safety and physicality of football. It allowed players to be more confident in their play, reducing the fear of injury from tackles. This innovation not only contributed to the evolution of protective gear in football but also underscored the importance of player safety in the sport.

Legacy

Today, shin pads are a mandatory piece of equipment in football at all levels of play, from youth leagues to professional competitions. They come in various styles and sizes, tailored to provide optimal protection while minimising interference with players' movement. Sam Weller Widdowson's adaptation of cricket shin pads to football remains a pivotal moment in the history of sports equipment innovation.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

MGRATH REAL ESTATE NEW LAMBTON Home to a team of passionate property specialists with exceptional skills in Real Estate, the McGrath New Lambton Real Estate Agency is dedicated to achieving outstanding results tailored to the individuals needs. Contact us on 4952 6500.

NEWCASTLE INSURANCE GROUP Your local Newcastle insurance broker. We are Newcastle based providing business insurance, home and car insurance to our clients. We are also one of the leading online providers of business insurance Australia wide. Contact us on 1300 62 80 80.

NOVOCASTRIAN ELECTRICAL Novocastrian Electrical has been serving the people of Newcastle, Port Stephens and the Hunter Valley for over 30 years. Novocastrian Electrical will not only attain your project expectations and outcomes but seek to achieve beyond expectations in all areas. Contact us on 4987 6441.

GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL The Great Northern is an iconic family hotel in Newcastle's East End. The Great Northern welcomes everyone to enjoy their hospitality and reward yourselves with sharing what they have to offer as part of our great community. We appreciate your support. Contact us on 4077 3910.

VILLAGE GROCER BLACKBUTT The Village Grocer Blackbutt takes pride in their commitment to the community, offering high-quality groceries and valuable work experience opportunities for individuals living with disabilities.Visit and support your local grocer at 74 Orchardtown Rd New Lambton.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

WESTS NEW LAMBTON The Wests Group is a locally owned and operated not-for-profit membership-based organisation. We proudly commit to meaningful social investments that help sustain positive, thriving communities throughout our region. Support the club that supports your community. Visit us at 88 Hobart Rd New Lambton, or contact us on 4935 1200.

SPORTS CLIQUE Sports Clique have provided athletes, organisations, members and supporters with outstanding kits, apparel and accessories and have done so since 2014. Contact us on sales@sportsclique.com.au

ROBOLINE Level up your line marking game with Roboline. Roboline is Newcastle and Lake Macquarie's newest line marking service, with precision sporting field line marking for every occasion. We use a state of the art GPS robotic sporting field line marking system to guarantee the best results. Contact us on 0414 552 669.

BAKERS DELIGHT KOTARA What we do is nice and simple, it's freshly baked bread! We are committed to delighting our customers and being pillars of our communities. We've been baking the same way for many years to give you our signature delightful experience. Because you don't just deserve butter, you deserve the best. Contact us on 4956 2142.

ADAMS FAMILY MEATS Adam's Family Meats is an award winning, modern day butcher shop located in New Lambton, serving customers in and around the Newcastle area for over 10 years. Contact us on 4952 1622.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

SOLVD Consult, Create, Reach and Nurture. The team at Solved are helping brands solve complex challenges with ingenuity, using critical thinking and critical execution. Contact us on 0413 426 878.

MELT GELATO Melt Gelato has a huge range of gelato in 18 flavours, spiders, milkshakes and other sweet treats on offer to our great local community. Come and visit us at 89 Regent Street New Lambton.

MY FOOTDR. My Foot Doctor Podiatry Charlestown have the skills and experience to assess and treat almost any foot or lower limb condition. How you move, how you feel and how you live comes down to your feet - we believe that healthy feet can lead to a better quality of life. My Foot Doctor - healthy feet, better lives. Contact us on 4966 0799.

NCIG - NEWCASTLE COAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (NCIG) provides a premier coal export service and is an integral part of the Australian coal export industry. Our facilities include rail, coal storage, ship loading facilities and associated infrastructure.

ABE'S AUDIO With our diverse range of voice over talent and expert sound engineers, your next project will really stand out. With Abe's Audio, you can have as much creative control as you want, from wherever you want. Whether it's online content, TV or radio advertising, an eLearning narration or corporate video, sound design, podcast production or a jingle, we can make your next project have an impact – on your audience and your peace of mind. Contact us on production@abesaudio.com

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

TJM HUNTER VALLEY TJM Hunter Valley is the go-to place for 4WD equipment and vehicle accessories in the Newcastle, Central Coast and Hunter Valley. Our staff can assist you whether you are a weekend adventurer, across the country tourer or recreational 4WDer. As part of the TJM national network we have access to a wide range of 4WD, vehicle accessories, touring, and outdoors products.



ALLAMBI CARE Allambi Care is a multi-disciplined and recognised leader in the human services field working across Newcastle, the Hunter, the NSW Central Coast and Victoria. We are committed to supporting our community's most vulnerable people through tailored services and programs.

ALLAMBI CARE

ULTRA TUNE MORRISET Ultra Tune Morisset guarantee that "old fashioned" service experience. Whether it's your daily drive or you have a fleet of vehicles that need looking after we offer a complete range of car servicing options, designed to suit your needs. In every case, you'll know in advance exactly how much the service will cost.

UltraTune
Auto Service Centres

4U CARE We're on a mission to radically improve the lives of people living with disability. To prove that leading an ordinary life doesn't need to be an extraordinary effort. That with care, optimism and enthusiasm, we can create a more just world. A world full of enjoyable experiences, friendship and opportunity.

4u care

CREATIVE CHILDCARE Creative Childcare is locally owned and operated, founded in 2016 by a group of parents who had a shared vision of providing a new and innovative approach to early education. Creative Childcare offers the very best of care and learning in a fun and creative environment and is run by a qualified team of Educators.

Creative Childcare

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

KENTAN MACHINERY Kentan Machinery was established in 1970 next door to their current location and originally focused on aftermarket construction equipment parts. From these humble beginnings, the business has grown into one of the largest Kubota dealerships in Australia.

LOOKING FOR CLUB PARTNERS

Running a community football Club is not easy, and we generally have only two things that stop our Club from being the best we can be - volunteers and funding.

We have some fantastic Club sponsors, supporters and partners, although we are always looking for more funding partners to allow the Club to thrive and to ensure that the equipment we have is fit-for-purpose, safe and ready to go.

For example - to provide everyone a practice ball at training, we need around 1,000 balls (plus another 100 or so for game balls). For everyone to have a training bib, we need around 1,000 bibs, plus nearly 200 volunteer bibs. To have enough training cones for all the teams, we need around 1,600 cones. For each team to have portable mini-goals for training we need around 80 sets of goals. This is just a small insight into some of the things we need to make your Club be as good as it can be.

We need people to help with general teams management, gear and equipment distribution, general administrative tasks, helping with game days and assisting at our Bunnings BBQ's - to name just a few. If you think you can help by volunteering some of your time or if you know someone who may be interested, please reach out to us for more information on **info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

If you are considering a Club sponsorship or if you know someone who may be in a position to do so, please contact us on **supporter@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

NLFC JUNIORS

WHO CLOSES THE FIELDS WE PLAY ON?

Field closures, as a result of wet weather, are largely determined by Council. They reserve the right to prohibit the use of any field in the event of heavy rain, in times of drought, or where damage is likely to be caused. Wet weather refers to a rainfall event which may affect the characteristics of a field and subsequent use of the field is likely to cause damage to the playing surface and / or player injury.

If the fields are declared closed they cannot be used for competition or training. Once a field is closed, it remains closed until a re-inspection declares the ground open.

On weekends, field closures are the responsibility of the Club. Should wet weather conditions develop, inspections are carried out to ascertain if there is any deterioration to the condition of the fields. If excessive damage is noticed, it is our responsibility to cancel further games and / or training.

If wet weather has been present in the week proceeding, is forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology or wet weather conditions develop, inspections must be completed throughout the day to ascertain if there is any deterioration to the condition of the fields. If excessive damage is noticed, then further games and / or training must be cancelled.

Any excessive damage caused to the fields from inappropriate use is the responsibility of the Club. Council will invoice us for all damage caused to the field/s and / or possible suspension of licence in instances where such damage is considered to be excessive and greater than would be expected from normal wear and tear. Additionally, any excessive damage caused to the fields from inappropriate use will be charged as per Council's fees and charges, "Use of Sportsground out of season, without approval / licence, closed or in wet weather." City of Newcastle's decision on whether excessive damage has been caused shall be made by experienced staff, and will be final. Where it is determined by Council that the Club has caused excessive damage, repairs to the field/s will not be a priority for Council. The licence maybe suspended during any required works / remediation period with the Club responsible for sourcing an alternative field at this time; at our cost.

HOW DO I CONTACT COUNCIL?

If you want to contact Council to let them know that you want your local community sporting facilities improved (such as the installation of lighting, disability accessible bathrooms, field drainage to improve playability and shorten field closure time, field top dressing to improve field levels to remove divots, hills and hollows, additional or modern water / drinking fountains, etc) you can use the following form: **CONTACT CN**
You can also contact the City's Councillors: **CONTACT COUNCILLORS**
You can also contact Jodie Harrison: **CONTACT JODIE**
You can also contact Sharon Claydon: **CONTACT SHARON**

JUNIOR FICTION - CHARLOTTE'S BIG FOOTBALL SURPRISE

Charlotte Roberts was a football fanatic. At 14, she had posters of her favourite players plastered all over her bedroom walls and spent hours practicing in the backyard. Her biggest dream was to meet her soccer idol, Ellie Carpenter, the Australian star known for her speed and skill.

One Friday afternoon, Charlotte's mom surprised her with two tickets to a special training session with the Matildas, Australia's national women's football team. Charlotte could hardly contain her excitement. "Mom, this is unbelievable! Thank you so much!" she exclaimed, hugging her mother tightly.

The next day, Charlotte and her best friend Mia arrived at the stadium early. They were buzzing with excitement, chatting about their favourite Matildas players and hoping for a chance to get autographs.

The training session was amazing. Charlotte watched in awe as Ellie Carpenter zipped across the field, effortlessly controlling the ball and making precise passes. She couldn't believe her luck when, after the session, an announcement was made that a few lucky fans would get to meet some of the players. Charlotte and Mia were among the chosen ones. They lined up with other fans, and Charlotte's heart raced as Ellie Carpenter approached. She was just as tall and athletic as she looked on TV, with a warm, friendly smile.

"Hi there! What's your name?" Ellie asked, crouching down to Charlotte's level. "I'm Charlotte," she stammered, starstruck. "You're my favourite player ever! I want to be just like you."

Ellie laughed. "That's awesome, Charlotte! How long have you been playing football?"

"Since I was five. I play right back, just like you!" Ellie's eyes twinkled. "Right back, huh? That's fantastic. How about we take a photo together?"

As they posed for the picture, Charlotte's excitement got the better of her. She tried to balance on one foot like she often did in her goal celebrations, but her sneaker slipped on the grass, and she toppled over, accidentally knocking Ellie off balance too. They both landed on the ground with a thud. For a moment, there was silence. Then Ellie burst out laughing, and soon Charlotte joined in. Mia snapped a photo of them both lying on the grass, giggling uncontrollably.

"You know," Ellie said, still chuckling as she helped Charlotte to her feet, "falling down is part of the game. What matters is getting back up and having a laugh about it." Charlotte beamed. "Thanks, Ellie. This is the best day ever."

Ellie signed Charlotte's football and gave her a high five before moving on to the next fan. As they left the stadium, Mia couldn't stop teasing Charlotte about her "epic fall," but Charlotte didn't mind one bit. She had met her idol and even shared a funny moment with her.

Back at home, Charlotte placed the signed football on her shelf and looked at the photo Mia had taken. It wasn't the perfect picture she had imagined, but it was even better. It captured the joy and spontaneity of the day, reminding her that dreams could come true in the most unexpected and delightful ways.

As she drifted off to sleep that night, Charlotte smiled, already dreaming of her next football adventure. Meeting Ellie Carpenter had not only been exciting and fun but also an unforgettable lesson in embracing life's little surprises with a smile.

THE FINAL WHISTLE

In the bustling city of Newcastle, community football has long been a vibrant tapestry of passion, camaraderie, and growth. With a rich history dating back over a century, the sport has woven itself into the fabric of local culture, bringing together people from all walks of life.

One of the most notable aspects of community football in Newcastle is its robust grassroots development. From a young age, children are introduced to the game through local clubs and academies. These clubs not only teach the fundamentals of football but also instill values of teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship. Many of Newcastle's youth leagues have produced talented players who have gone on to represent state and national teams, showcasing the depth of talent nurtured within the community.

Beyond player development, community football in Newcastle fosters a sense of inclusivity and diversity. Clubs welcome players of all abilities and backgrounds, providing a supportive environment for both competitive and recreational football. This inclusivity extends to coaches, referees, and volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate and thrive in the sport they love.

Community football also plays a crucial role in promoting health and well-being. With numerous fields and facilities scattered throughout the city, Newcastle residents of all ages have access to spaces where they can stay active and engaged. Local leagues and tournaments not only provide a platform for friendly competition but also encourage physical fitness and social interaction among participants.

Moreover, community football in Newcastle serves as a hub for social cohesion and community engagement. Matches and events bring together families, friends, and neighbours, creating bonds that transcend the boundaries of age, gender, and background. The sport has a unifying effect, fostering a sense of pride and belonging among participants and spectators alike.

In recent years, Newcastle has also seen a surge in initiatives aimed at promoting sustainability and environmental responsibility within community football. Clubs are increasingly adopting eco-friendly practices, such as recycling programs, water conservation measures, and the use of renewable energy sources, to minimise their environmental footprint and contribute positively to the local community.

Overall, community football in Newcastle continues to thrive as a testament to the enduring spirit of sport and community. Through its commitment to development, inclusivity, health, and sustainability, Newcastle's football community not only enriches the lives of its participants but also contributes to the city's cultural tapestry, making it a beacon of positivity and inspiration for generations to come.

CONTACT US

GENERAL: info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

SAFEGUARDING / LEAD CHAMPION: vicepresident@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

MEMBER PROTECTION OFFICER (MPIO): mpio@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

SPONSORSHIP / FUNDRAISING: supporter@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

NEWSLETTER: footballistiq@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au

WEBSITE: New Lambton FC Juniors

FACEBOOK: New Lambton FC Juniors

TEAMAPP: New Lambton FC Juniors

