OCTOBER 2024

FOOTBALLISTIQ

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW LAMBTON FC JUNIORS AND ARNETTS FC

HOT NEWS



2024 PRESENTATION DAYS SUCCESS - TWO FUN AFTERNOONS TO REMEMBER

The Presentation Days for New Lambton Football Club were a fantastic celebration of the season, bringing together players, coaches, families, and supporters.The events were filled with excitement, recognising the hard work and dedication of each team while highlighting standout achievements and memorable moments. From the enthusiastic applause during the award presentations to the shared joy of reflecting on the season's journey, the atmosphere was vibrant and filled with community spirit and was a perfect way to cap off an incredible year, leaving everyone inspired and proud to be part of the Club.

NOVO LIGHTING UPGRADES DUE TO COMMENCE SHORTLY

UNDERWHELMING TURN-OUT FOR WORKING BEE LEADS TO LONG DAYS FOR HARD-WORKING FEW

NOVOCASTRIAN PARK
WELCOME TO THE HOME OF
NEW LAMBTON FOOTBALL CLUB

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

A's ARNETTS FC

Arnetts FC, where you come for the soccer and stay for the friends!

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

As the Arnetts FC season draws to a close, they would like to invite you to their Presentation Day in the Lincoln room at Club Charlestown from 11:30am Sunday October 13th. We hope you can join us to celebrate the season.









Creative Childcare

ARNETTS FC

Arnetts FC, where you come for the soccer and stay for the friends!

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









ALLAMBI CARE

ARNETTS FC

Arnetts FC, where you come for the soccer and stay for the friends!

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











ARNETTS FC

Arnetts FC, where you come for the soccer and stay for the friends!

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

With the 2024 season having now concluded, Arnetts FC would like to take a moment to thank our coaches James, John and Chris. You won't find better!

These coaches have worked behind the scenes to secure a venue when our fields have been washed out. They have turned up to coach even when their own kids were too unwell to attend and when others thought the weather was too wet or too cold. These guys are clearly the best!

We would also like to thank Adam. A long term supporter of Arnetts who's been to too many games to count.

Join us in thanking James, John, Chris and Adam.











UPCOMING COACHING COURSES

Upcoming Coaching Courses

Have you registered for an upcoming coaching course?

Brand new coaching education opportunities are taking place in 2024 and the start of 2025 and you don't want to miss out.

Check below for the next available course that's happening in an area near you.

- **MiniRoos Certificate**
- **NNSWF Recognised Skill Training Certificate**
- **Foundation of Football**
- **Foundation of Goalkeeping**
- **FA 'C' Diploma - advanced coaches**
- **FA 'B' Diploma - advanced coaches**



the GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL EST. 1863



the GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL EST. 1863

DIVERSITY AND NEW LAMBTON FC

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.

Diversity is at the heart of our program. We believe that football is a universal language, capable of bringing together people from all walks of life, and our teams reflect this. Children and youths from different cultural, social, and economic backgrounds come together to share their love for the game, building not only skills but lifelong friendships. The club takes pride in fostering an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome, regardless of their background or ability.

Our commitment to diversity goes beyond just participation. We actively promote equal opportunities for all our players, ensuring they have access to quality coaching and a diverse range of development pathways. Whether a player is new to the game or has been playing for years, every child is given the chance to grow, improve, and most importantly, enjoy the sport.

By embracing diversity, we enrich the football experience for all involved. Players learn valuable life lessons such as respect, empathy, and teamwork, which extend beyond the pitch. At New Lambton, we recognise that a diverse team is a strong team, where different perspectives and talents contribute to the overall success and spirit of the group.

As a community-focused club, we are proud of the role we play in promoting unity and inclusivity through football. The diversity within our teams is a testament to the welcoming and supportive environment we strive to create, ensuring every young player feels valued and empowered.

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.

KENTAN MACHINERY

KENTAN MACHINERY

MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (MPIO) TRAINING

Member Protection Information Officers (MPIOs) are an integral part of all levels of Australia sport, especially grassroots sport. MPIOs are there to listen to issues raised by members of any sport before triaging and referring them to the right place to find a resolution. The MPIO is responsible for providing information about a person's rights, responsibilities and options to an individual making a complaint or raising a concern, as well as information support during the process.

MPIOs don't handle complaints or investigate grievances, and they don't mediate between members or stakeholders. They're also separate from the relevant Integrity Manager or the person(s) in authority regarding complaints, disputes and resolutions in your sport. MPIOs are an impartial party who are there to help guide people in the right direction.

If you are interested in being an MPIO for our Club, please let us know - send us an email at **info@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

MPIO Training

Part 1 – Online Module

MPIO Training: Part 1 is a free, self-paced online course. It is recommended that you complete this before attending the Part 2 training. Find the training online at **https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/**

Part 2 – Workshop

MPIO Training: Part 2 is a workshop facilitated by your state or territory department of sport and recreation, peak body for sport, state sporting organisation or national sporting organisation The training is conducted either in person (3 hours) or through an interactive online workshop (2 hours).

Visit the **MPIO Part 2 training calendar** with dates for your state or territory (costs may vary pending delivery method and are the responsibility of delivery organisation).

Adam's FAMILY MEATS
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YOU HELPED US CHOOSE THE COLOUR OF OUR TRAINING SHIRT FOR 2025

As you would have seen, 2024 heralded the return of training shirts for all players at New Lambton FC.

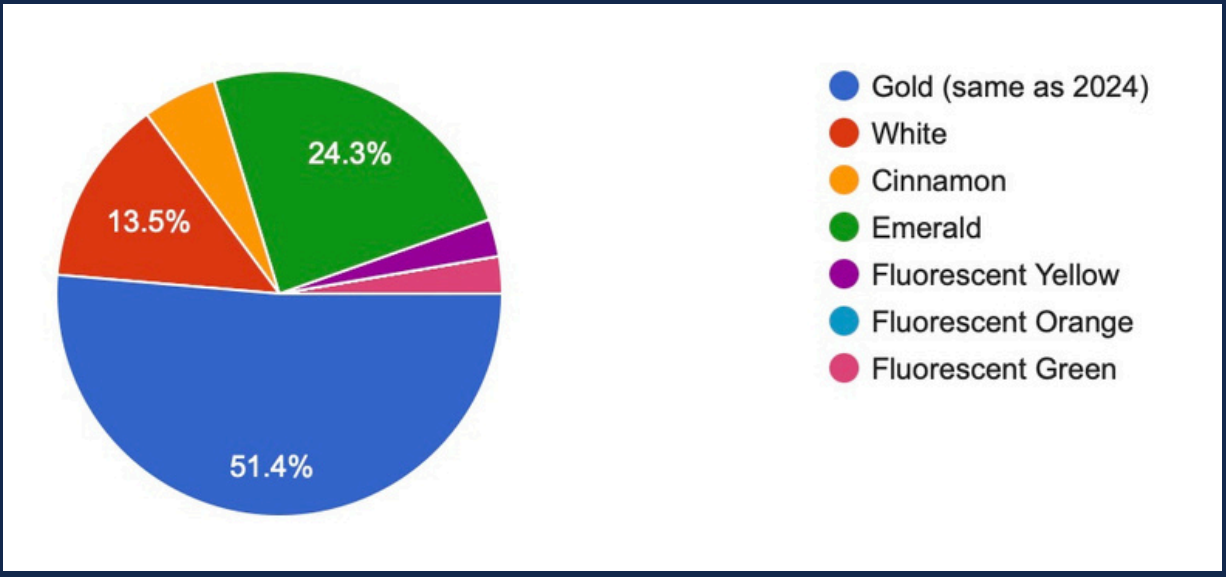
We decided to use our Club's gold colour for our training shirts, and al the feedbackwe've received is that they look quite smart!

We have been successfully pushing the boundaries and we are not afraid to be a progressive, modern Club whilst still maintaining a strong link to our roots and our history.

We always want to involve our people whenever we can in decision we make. In line with that, we asked **YOU** to help **US** choose the colour of our training shirt for 2025.

The colours we tabled for you to choose from were Gold (the same as 2024), White, Cinnamon, Emerald, Fluorescent Yellow, Fluorescent Orange and Fluorescent Green.

Voting closed 7:30pm Monday 30 September 2024 and we received a large number of responses.



The colour with the most votes after voting closed was Gold (same as 2024) with 51.4% of the vote, and as-such has been nominated as the training shirt colour for 2025.

One lucky Club member will be randomly selected from all the people who cast a vote, to have their name exclusively recognised on the training shirt - stay tuned for this announcement.

SUMMER FAST 5'S COMPETITION

New Lambton FC Juniors is planning to host a social level Summer 5's competition for 2024, commencing October, through November into December. Summer 5's is an action-packed, modified game of football where participants are encouraged to think on their feet and have fun with their mates.

Why should younger players participate in Summer 5's?

1. Summer 5's encourages all younger players to develop their football skills and have more opportunities to play
2. Summer 5's is a demanding game environment requiring players to make quicker decisions and respond with quicker actions
3. Players will improve their agility and fitness through fast-paced five-a-side
4. This competition encourages younger players to develop their football skills and provides more opportunities on the pitch in a friendly environment.
5. Younger players will improve their agility and fitness playing in this fast-paced, five-a-side competition.

The format will include:

1. Smaller field sizes (25m x 40m)
2. Two 20 minute halves, with a 5 minute break
3. Five players on the pitch, maximum of 3 substitutes
4. Maximum 10 per team
5. Unlimited interchange
6. Maximum 4 players to start a game
7. Goal keeper cannot use hands
8. Games played at Novocastrian Park, from 5:00pm
9. Depending on the uptake we will have female, mixed and male competitions

We propose the following age groups (level of interest permitting):

1. U7's (inc. 5's, 6's and 7's) – Monday afternoon / evening
2. U9's (inc. 8's and 9's) – Monday afternoon / evening
3. U11's (inc. 10's and 11's) – Monday afternoon / evening
4. U13's (inc. 12's and 13's) – Wednesday afternoon / evening
5. U16's (inc. 14's, 15's and 16's) – Wednesday afternoon / evening
6. 8 playing rounds with a spare wet-weather round
7. Commencing Monday 14th October
8. Referees supplied

Cost: $120

Talk to your team mates, friends, etc and organise your team NOW so you don't miss out!

REGISTRATIONS OPEN NOW - TO REGISTER CLICK HERE

Contact us: **summerfootball@newlambtonfcjuniors.org.au**

MINIROOS KICK-OFF AND MINITILLIES

In the 2025 pre-season, the Club will be running MiniRoos Kick-Off (Mixed) as well as MiniTillies (Girls-Only).

MiniRoos Kick-Off

- A fun, safe introductory program designed for new players aged between 4 and 11.
- Weekly 45 - 60 minute sessions that build skills through games and simple drills delivered in an engaging and inclusive environment.
- Every player gets plenty of time on the ball and the prime aim of each session is for children to build fundamental motor skills.
- Each child also receives a MiniRoos Participant Pack in the mail when they register – which includes a ball, a shirt and a certificate.

MiniTillies (Girls-Only)

- MiniTillies is Football Australia's national introductory football program for girls aged between 4 to 11 years.
- This fun, social and engaging program provides an alternate option for girls who may not want to participate in a mixed-gender program, as well as the opportunity to choose their football experience.
- MiniTillies Programs will run for 8 weeks for 45 – 60 minutes per session
- Participants receive a participant pack including a MiniRoos t-shirt, football, and certificate as part of their registration fee

All registered participants receive personal accident insurance as part of their registration fee.

Both programs will be held at Novocastrian Park from early February 2025 to mid-April, likely Monday and Wednesday afternoons / evenings although this will be guided by the uptake (hopefully a good one!).

Once approved by NNSWF, we will be opening registration to everyone!

More information is available HERE: **MINITILLIES** **MINIROOS KICK-OFF**

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION - COMING SOON!!

McGrath
McGrath Estate Agents New Lambton

HOW CAN I HELP WITH THE GAME OFFICIALS CRISIS - BECOME A REFEREE!

Ensuring there are enough match day officials for community football is extremely challenging.

To give an idea of how dire the situation is, calculations of our Club's referee allocations for Interdistrict for season 2024 revealed we had 120 match officials appointed to 540 available positions - approximately 22% coverage of games!

Anyone aged 13 and over can become a referee.

There are so many different reasons to become a referee. It's a great way to:

- earn some extra money
- give back to the game you love
- stay fit and active
- build leadership skills like effective communication, working as a team and decision-making.

Whether you're a player, past player, parent, club volunteer or new to our game, we can help equip you with all of the knowledge and support you need to enter the rewarding world of refereeing.

Who knows, you might even officiate in the A-League or internationally with FIFA!

To become a referee for games, you must be 13 years of age or over and you will need to complete the **C0 Course (formerly known as Online Laws of the Game Course)** as well as completing a **C3 Course (formerly known as Level 4 Referee Course)**.

STEP 1:

The **C0 Course (formerly known as Online Laws of the Game Course)** provides a basic introduction to the Laws of the Game and their interpretation. After completing the course participants will receive a certificate which will allow them to continue the refereeing pathway and attend the **C3 course (formerly known as Level 4 Referee Course)**.

In order to become a referee in Australia, all participants must complete the C0 Course, whether they wish to officiate on MiniRoos, with their club or in an official capacity.

NOVOCASTRIAN ELECTRICAL

HOW CAN I HELP WITH THE GAME OFFICIALS CRISIS - BECOME A REFEREE!

STEP 2:

Participants then undertake Football Australia's newly launched **C3 Junior Football Match Official (formerly known as Level 4 Referee course)**. Log in to the **learning centre**, go to your Training Library and view a course in the Referee Community-Member Federation section.

There are **4 online theory modules** and an in-person event to complete the course:

1. Match Control - understanding our impact on the game
2. Positioning Movement - the best position for the correct decision
3. Technical concepts - C0 course and considerations
4. Game Management - managing a match with football understanding

STEP 3:

Participants then attend the C3 Junior Football Match Official (formerly known as Level 4 Referee course) In Person Event.

The C3 Junior Football Match Official course serves as an entry point for those seeking to officiate in junior football leagues organised by Member Federations. Participants will acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to confidently manage junior matches while emphasising the importance of player development and safety.

Enrol for an in-person event with your member federation or zone to complete your accreditation, receive your equipment and order your clothing.

Find and **In Person Event HERE**

OCTOBER 2024

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

PRESENTATION DAYS 2024
MINIROOS AND YOUTH TEAMS

This year, our Club end-of-year Trophy Presentations were split over 2 fun filled days at alternate venues.

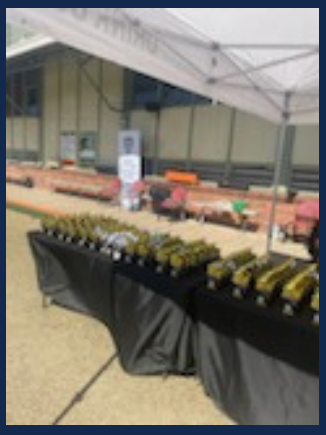
Inflatable World at Warners Bay hosted our MiniRoos teams, and Club Kotara hosted our Youth Competition teams.

The Presentation Days were a fantastic celebration of the season, bringing together players, coaches, families, and supporters.The events were filled with excitement, recognising the hard work and dedication of each team while highlighting standout achievements and memorable moments. From the enthusiastic applause during the award presentations to the shared joy of reflecting on the season's journey, the atmosphere at both venues was vibrant and filled with community spirit and was a perfect way to cap off an incredible year, leaving everyone inspired and proud to be part of the Club.

A big shout-out to Melt Gelato and their new Event Cart - they made sure everyone had the opportunity to create a special melting moment at our special days!

Arnetts FC celebrate their season with a Presentation Day in the Lincoln room at Club Charlestown from 11:30am Sun. October 13th. We hope you can join us to celebrate.

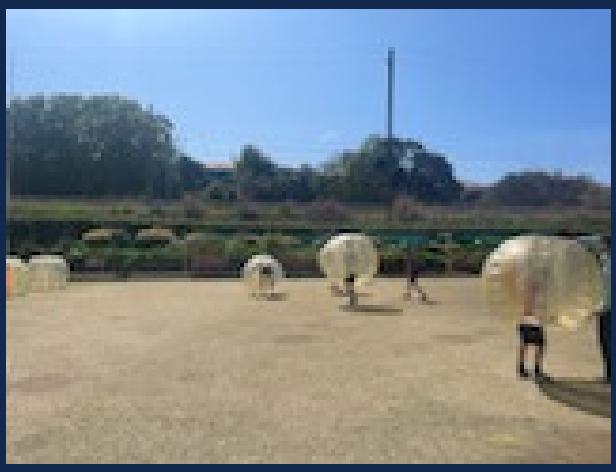








PRESENTATION DAYS 2024
MINIROOS AND YOUTH TEAMS













PRESENTATION DAYS 2024
MINIROOS AND YOUTH TEAMS













PRESENTATION DAYS 2024
MINIROOS AND YOUTH TEAMS













PRESENTATION DAYS 2024
MINIROOS AND YOUTH TEAMS













WOMEN ONSIDE MOMENTUM IN MOTION

While the progress in women's football has been remarkable, it is critical to recognise that visibility and success at the elite level do not automatically translate into gender equity across the sport. High-profile events like the Women's World Cup brought significant attention to women's football, but they also highlighted enduring disparities that require a comprehensive approach to address, including resource allocation and leadership representation.

The challenge now is to ensure that the progress made builds a long-term, sustainable foundation for women's football. The incredible support the Matildas have received, the landmark media deals, and the award-winning projects represent crucial steps forward. But this is just the beginning.

In a major development, Football Australia has secured a multi-year broadcasting agreement with Paramount Australia, which will significantly expand the reach of women's football across multiple platforms. This deal is historic not only because it brings the game to more screens but also because of its broader implications for the sport. By ensuring women's football is visible on mainstream platforms, it helps shift societal perceptions of women in sport. Regular broadcasts mean that fans, young players, and future stars will have consistent exposure to top-level women's football, normalising female athletes as household names.

As we move forward into 2025, Women Onside is committed to driving meaningful change in football through a focus on governance, leadership, policy tracking, and advocacy. Their 2025–2027 Strategic Plan sets out clear goals to ensure that women have equitable representation and opportunities at every level of the sport. They aim to foster greater diversity in football leadership by advocating for policy changes, tracking progress, and holding organisations accountable to gender equity standards. This includes pushing for compliance with the new Gender Balance Policy and supporting women to step into decision-making roles through our Getting on Board masterclasses and the Onside Mentoring program.

We can contribute by staying engaged with advocacy efforts, participating in leadership development programs, and spreading the word about the importance of women in football governance. Together, we can continue to influence policy, grow our networks, and make a lasting impact on football's future. Let's work together to ensure that by 2027, we've achieved a level playing field for all women in football.

Women Onside members are a valued addition to our football community.

Their membership fee is $22.00 per year, and as a member, you can also access exclusive resources, events, and professional development opportunities.

Want to learn more or keen to join? Visit their **website**.

FEMALE CONSULTATIVE GROUP

We need at least 3 committed females (5 - 6 would be preferred) to help us ensure the Club is being the best it can be in the inclusion, representation and retention of females, and thank you to the couple of persons who have so far shown an interest we haven't forgotten you, we are waiting until we have some more volunteers to form the FCG.

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:

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

We need female members to put their hands up to be part of this important group.

ZERO TOLERANCE

More than 50 per cent of Northern NSW Football premier competitions youth match officials stopped refereeing in the last 12 months. At least 30 of those quit mid-season specifically because of the abuse they received while refereeing.

Enough is enough.

We are fully committed to changing the culture towards refereeing in Northern NSW Football competitions. This will mean a whole of game approach to changing behaviours, attitudes and actions of players, coaches and spectators.

Through the Match Official Support Standards - Zero Tolerance, Northern NSW Football is introducing measures which will be part of a three-pillar strategy to implement Zero Tolerance.



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:

- Age Group Coordinators
- 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!

- Fast 5's Competition - starting soon!
- MiniRoos Kick-Off and MiniTillies - read about them in this issue!
- Coach-the-Coach training - coming again in early 2025
- Goal Keeper training - coming again in early 2025

WESTS

OUR CHOSEN CHARITIES

As we wrap up another fantastic season with the New Lambton Football Club, we're looking to give back to our community in a meaningful way.

We are inviting everyone to make a small but impactful contribution to our Club's preferred charities Got Your Back Sista and Black Dog Institute.

All we're asking for is a small donation to each of our preferred charities – a gold coin to each or whatever you feel comfortable with – to contribute to these causes that mean so much to us. Your support is a wonderful way to celebrate the spirit of teamwork and generosity that makes our club so special.

You don't have to choose between them – a gold coin donation to each will help enormously.

You can click on the below links to go directly to the donation pages.

Black Dog: **DONATE NOW!!**

Got Your Back Sista: **DONATE NOW!!**

Your contribution, however big or small, will make a huge difference for those in need. We encourage everyone to participate and spread the good vibes as we close out the season with a positive impact.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and for being part of this incredible community!

Your generosity is truly appreciated, and I know that together, we can bring a lot of smiles to those who need it most.

Wishing you all the best and looking forward to making a difference with you!

Black Dog: **DONATE NOW!!**

Got Your Back Sista: **DONATE NOW!!**



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.

New Lambton FC Juniors hold our monthly Team Manager and Committee meeting at Club Kotara - the last Wednesday evening of the month, from 7:00pm.



CLUB KOTARA

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

One of the more bizarre and little-known historical facts about football in Newcastle involves the city's love for the game during the early 20th century, when coal miners made up a significant portion of the players and fans. In 1928, Newcastle witnessed a peculiar incident during a local football match that is still talked about in local folklore.

The match between two coal mining teams was suddenly interrupted by what could only be described as a "coal dust storm." Strong winds from nearby coal pits blew large amounts of coal dust across the field, forcing the game to a standstill as players and spectators were temporarily blinded.

The players, many of whom worked in the mines themselves, were used to the tough conditions of coal mining life and took it in stride. Once the dust settled - quite literally - the game resumed. It's said that some players joked it was "just another day at the office," as they were already accustomed to working in the coal fields amidst the grime. Despite this odd and challenging situation, the match finished, showcasing the grit and determination of Newcastle's early football players.

This event not only highlights the unique relationship between Newcastle's coal industry and its early soccer culture but also reflects the toughness of the city's players, who persevered even in the face of such an unusual disruption. The "coal dust match" remains a quirky footnote in Newcastle's rich football history.

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

CLUB CHANGER

ROBOLINE

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

MCGRATH 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.

DUTCH ENGINEERING Founded in 1972 by Geoff Dutch, Dutch Engineering has evolved into Newcastle's leading supplier to the trades, manufacturing aluminium and steel trays, canopies, tippers, insulated bodies and sheet metal. At Dutch, they pride themselves on their materials and promise to provide you with the highest of quality products.

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**

AN INTERNATIONAL PRODIGY AND YOUNG MATILDAS GALORE: THE NINJA A-LEAGUE'S YOUNG PLAYERS TO WATCH

The 2024-25 Ninja A-League season is almost upon us, and as is the case every season, there are young players across the competition itching to make an impact in the new campaign.

Adelaide United: Ella Tonkin Ella Tonkin has re-signed with Adelaide United after winning the club's Young Player of the Year award in 2024. Tonkin will line up in a defence featuring Matilda McNamara after the Australian international's return to the club and can only benefit from the added experience in the club's backline.

Brisbane Roar: Danelle Tan Singapore international Danelle Tan has arrived at Brisbane Roar and if her career achievements to date are anything to go by, the 19-year-old is set to light up the league in 2024-25. Tan arrives in Brisbane after a stint at German club Borussia Dortmund. Roar's number nine has the pedigree to be a Ninja A-League star and it will be well worth keeping close tabs on her first season in the competition.

Canberra United: Mary Stanic-Floody The recipient of Canberra's Rising Star Award in 2023-24, Mary Stanic-Floody stood out in her debut campaign at the club following a move from Sydney FC and has the potential to become a genuine star in green. Stanic-Floody took a gamble trading Sydney FC for Canberra and was rewarded with 16 league appearances last season. Regular match minutes were the key to Stanic-Floody's progression at her new club and the midfielder is capable of climbing to greater heights through her second season in Canberra.

Central Coast Mariners: Peta Trimis Peta Trimis is poised for a big season in Gosford after capturing attention through her sparkling debut Ninja A-League campaign in 2023-24. The 18-year-old scored three goals last season and earned a nomination for both the Ninja A-League Young Footballer of the Year award as well as the PFA Young Women's Footballer of the Year award.

Melbourne City: Emilia Murray This could be the season Emilia Murray makes the league sit up and take notice. Murray has spent the past three seasons at Adelaide United where injuries have taken their toll on the immensely talented forward. An upper leg injury has ruled Murray out of the Under-20 Women's World Cup in Colombia beginning on August 31, but City will hope to have the 19-year-old firing on all cylinders in time for the 2024-25 Ninja A-League season.

AN INTERNATIONAL PRODIGY AND YOUNG MATILDAS GALORE: THE NINJA A-LEAGUE'S YOUNG PLAYERS TO WATCH

Melbourne Victory: Ella O'Grady After a stellar first season in the Ninja A-League, 18-year-old Ella O'Grady is eager to build on her minutes and goals in a Melbourne Victory kit in season 2024-25. Described as "one of Australia's most exciting prospects" by Victory coach Jeff Hopkins, O'Grady scored on debut for the club in Round 1 of 2023-24 and bagged her second of the season in her third appearance.

Newcastle Jets: Emma Dundas Under head coach Ryan Campbell, Newcastle Jets have assembled an exciting, young squad and one of the key reasons Jets fans should be excited for the future is the emergence of Emma Dundas. The 17-year-old has signed a fresh two-year deal in Newcastle after a breakout season in which she made 22 appearances; her debut Ninja A-League campaign featured 17 starts with her first league goal coming in the final round of the regular season.

Perth Glory: Ella Abdul-Massih Western Sydney Wanderers have spent the past three seasons developing Ella Abdul-Masih but the 18-year-old will call Perth Glory home in season 2024-25. A Young Matildas aspirant, Abdul-Massih was a rising star among the Wanderers' youth ranks and arrives in Perth with a reputation as one of Australia's most promising young midfielders.

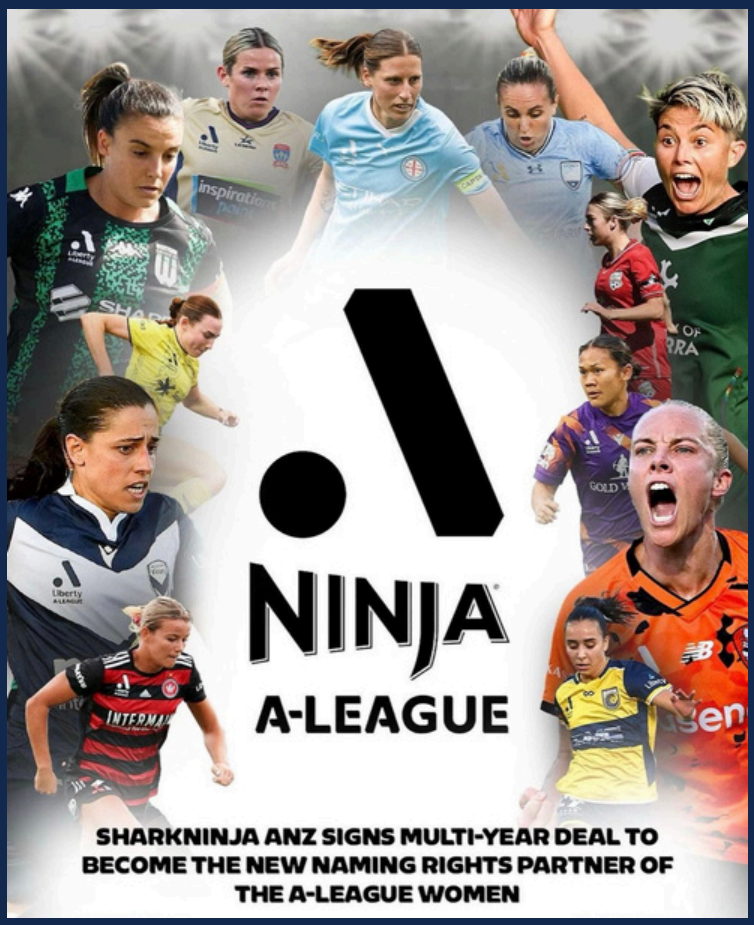
Sydney FC: Hana Lowry Lowry has been highly rated in Western Australia ever since her Glory debut in 2019; despite being just 21 years of age Lowry has 72 Ninja A-League appearances to her name and now, after winning Glory's Most Glorious Player award last season, has made the switch to the Sky Blues – a club with an impeccable reputation for taking Young Matildas and helping them on their way to becoming international stars.

Wellington Phoenix: Alyssa Whinham A Wellington Phoenix debutant in 2021, Whinham has been at the 'Nix since the club's Ninja A-League inception and the inaugural squad member has shown glimpses of her brilliant best throughout 38 league appearances to date. The 20-year-old has consistently shown the potential to become a star of the Ninja A-League.

Western Sydney Wanderers: Talia Younis This is a player capable of taking the Ninja A-League by storm. Younis joined the Wanderers aged 13 and after making her Ninja A-League debut aged 15 last season, went on to make 15 appearances for the Wanderers. Younis earned a call-up to the CommBank Young Matildas squad for the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup in May and will return all the better for her national team exposure. Keep track of Younis' career as she takes the next step in season 2024-25.

AN INTERNATIONAL PRODIGY AND YOUNG MATILDAS GALORE: THE NINJA A-LEAGUE'S YOUNG PLAYERS TO WATCH

Western United: Avaani Prakash Avaani Prakash is highly rated at Western United and, after a debut season that featured 14 Ninja A-League appearances, the 17-year-old will be backed by the club for increased minutes as she continues her development. Prakash is an alumnus of Westfield Sports High School – an institution that the likes of Ellie Carpenter, Alanna Kennedy, Kyra Cooney-Cross and Harry Kewell all called home during their football upbringings. Prakash was selected in Australia's Young Matildas squad for the Under-20 FIFA Women's World Cup in September and on return from the tournament in Colombia, will switch focus to her club football as she aims to become a key cog in Western's 2024-25 squad.



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THE FINAL WHISTLE

In Newcastle, our game of football is not merely a pastime, nor is it simply a weekend tradition. It is a pulse that beats in the heart of our community, connecting generations, cultures, and individuals through the beauty of the world's game. As we look towards the future, I see a vibrant, unshakeable force, growing stronger with each kick of the ball on every pitch across this city.

I see a future where football in Newcastle thrives not just because of talent, but because of the fierce sense of belonging it fosters. Our local fields, the humble arenas where boys and girls, men and women of all ages come together, will be the breeding grounds for more than just footballers. These pitches will nurture future leaders, uniting them in teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. The game will be a teacher, and the lessons learned on the field will ripple through the community, fostering stronger bonds, resilience, and unity among people from all walks of life.

Football will continue to bridge the old with the new. The coal miners of the past, who brought this sport to our shores, will be honored in the sweat and dreams of today's players. They could not have imagined how their beloved game, once played in dusty, makeshift fields, would evolve into a cornerstone of Newcastle's identity. Yet here we are, carrying their legacy forward, preserving that sense of community pride and dedication to the sport.

But in the years to come, Newcastle's football won't just be about history - it will be about embracing diversity. We will continue to open our arms to players from every background, ethnicity, and gender. The beauty of football in Newcastle is that it reflects the very essence of humanity. It is inclusive. It is democratic. No matter where you come from or what you have, once you step onto the field, you are part of the team, part of something larger than yourself. That ethos will continue to define Newcastle's community football, making it a beacon for others to follow.

We will see a surge of homegrown talent, young boys and girls, inspired by local heroes like Craig Johnston and Emily van Egmond, chasing their dreams with more support than ever before. Clubs will not just focusing on producing professionals, but on building character and instilling values that will benefit society as a whole.

The support for grassroots football will be unwavering, as our community realises the invaluable role these local clubs play in shaping the identity of our city. Football will be more than just a game in Newcastle - it will be an expression of who we are. It will echo in the laughter of children playing at dawn, in the cheers from sideline parents, in the sweat and tears of our amateur athletes who give their all, week after week, for the love of the sport.

The future of community football in Newcastle is bright. It is resilient. It is unstoppable. This city's bond with the game is unbreakable, and with every goal scored, every pass made, we write the next chapter of Newcastle's footballing legacy - a legacy built on community, diversity, and a shared love of the beautiful game.

CONTACT US

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