



2020 WINTER SEASON

Q. What programs do Dunbar Rovers offer for MiniRoos and Junior age groups?

A.

- **For boys and girls turning 6 and 7 in 2019** – Dunbar provides a weekly Tuesday training session at Latham Park, commencing in the first week of March from 4.15pm to 5.45pm until mid-August, AND a Saturday morning training/match day program from 8.30am – 9.45am, which is held at Moore Park West Field number 2 OR at Queens Park (for only 3 Saturdays only during the season), commencing from Saturday 4th April until 15th August (except for school and public holidays breaks in Easter, June long weekend and July school holidays – dates to be advised), all players will also play in 3 x ESFA Gala Days throughout the season.
- **For boys turning 8 to 12 in 2019 playing in social teams** – Your son will be ability-matched into a team which will play in the local ESFA MiniRoos non-competitive league, which commences Saturday the 4th April and ends on the 15th August (except for school and public holidays breaks in Easter, June long weekend and July school holidays – dates to be advised). These teams will play their home matches at Moore Park West Field 2 OR Queens Park with away matches played at opposing club grounds across the Eastern Suburbs. All matches will be played on Saturday mornings (except against Maccabi Sunday teams) at the same fixed kick-off times each weekend throughout the season, as follows:
 - 9am (U8), 10am (U9), 11am (U10), 12 noon (U11), and 1pm (U12).
 - U8 and 9 play 7-a-side matches and U10, U11 and U12 play 9-a-side matches.
 - Training/trials will be held on either a Tuesday (for U8 and U9 boys) AND Thursday (U10, U11, U12 boys' teams) at Latham Park synthetic field in South Coogee from 4.15pm to 5.45pm.
 - Pre-season matches will also be played every Sunday in the last 3 weeks of March.
- **The U9, U10, U11 and U12 Championship Development Teams** – Dunbar will also select a Development Team for ages U9, U10, U11 and U12 who will train twice a week (Monday and Thursday at Latham Park from 4.15pm to 5.45pm) and play in the ESFA Championship division. Trials for these teams will be held at Mission Fields (inside Centennial Park) on Friday the 21st February at 5pm to 6.30pm.
- **The U13, U14, U15, U16 and U18's Championship Development Teams** will play their home games at Moore Park Synthetic field. The U13 and U14 play on Saturdays at 3pm and 4.15pm respectively and the U15, U16 and U18 teams play on Sundays at Moore Park Synthetic between 12pm – 5pm. The Season commences on Saturday the 4th April until the 15th August (except for the following school and public holiday weekends in Easter, and the July school holidays – dates to be advised).
- **For girls turning 8 to 12 in 2019** will play home games on Sundays commencing 5th April until the 16th August at the Queens Park Field 12, between 11am – 2pm, and away games at any time from 9am – 12pm. No matches will be played at Easter, June long weekend, and July school holidays – dates to be advised).

Q. Where and when will Pre-season and In-season training be held?

A.

- **Pre-season training** will be on Wednesdays and Fridays, commencing Friday the 31st January for the Development Teams (from U12 to U18's) at Mission Fields inside Centennial Park, between 5pm and 8pm. All other teams across all younger age groups will commence Pre-season training in the first week of March at Latham Park Synthetic field. U6, U7, U8 and U9 boys' and all girls' teams will train on Tuesdays from 4.15pm to 5.45pm, and U10, U11, U12, U13, U14 Social Teams on Thursdays from 4.15pm – 5.45pm. The U9, U10, U11 and U12 Development Teams will train twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at Latham Park from 4.15pm to 5.45pm.



- **Weekly In-season training for U8 – U12 social boys' teams** will commence in April to end of August, and also take place at Latham Park Synthetic field in South Coogee after school from 4.15pm – 5.45pm, as follows:
 - The U6, U7, U8 and U9s boys' and girls' teams will train on Tuesdays.
 - The U10, U11, U12, U13 and U14 boys' and girls' Social Teams will train on Thursdays from 4.15pm to 5.45pm.
 - The U9, U10, U11 and U12 Development Teams will train twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at Latham Park from 4.15pm to 5.45pm.
 - Social Teams train once a week.
- **Weekly In-season training for girls turning 8, 9, 10 and 11** will commence in the first week of March for Pre-season at Latham Park on Tuesday nights 4.15pm – 5.45pm and continue at the same venue and times during the winter season. U10/U11 girls' teams will train on Thursdays at Latham Park at 4.15pm to 5.45pm.
- **Weekly In-season training for the U13, U14, U15, U16 and U18 boys' Development Teams** will be held twice a week. The U13 and U14 will train on Mondays at Latham Park from 4.15pm to 5.45pm and Wednesdays at Reg Bartley Oval in Rushcutters Bay from 5.30pm to 7pm. The U15, U16 and U18 will train on Wednesdays at Alexandria Park from 5pm to 6.30pm and Fridays at Alexandria Park between 5pm to 8pm.

Q. Can my child play with his friends?

A. At Dunbar we will grade (ability match) all players from Under 8 up but we will try and keep mates together unless their ability determines otherwise, this way the coaches can run training sessions at the standard of a given team, otherwise it becomes hard to deliver good training sessions if some players are not up to the same standard.

Q. At what age can I start playing?

A. Your child needs to be turning 6 years of age in 2019. We are happy for younger kids to come and try it out before deciding to join (some kids are too shy to engage at age 5 and others just love it) so we are happy for your child to do a couple of free sessions before deciding to join-up.

Q. In what Age Group will my child be playing in 2020?

A. The age your child turns in 2020 is the Age Group they should play in (e.g. if your child is turning 8 in 2020, they should play in the U8 Age Group), unless they wish to play up with their friends in an older Age Group (in this instance their ability must be of a standard that they can play up).

Q. How do I find out more about the playing rules?

A. Please view:

<https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Competition-Regulations-2019-5.pdf>



Q. What is the 'inclement weather' policy?

A. Washed out matches will be cancelled when the grounds are closed based upon the weather. Please check the ESFA social media weather information at 8am on match days, to confirm any ground closures. Other wet weather line numbers which are useful for training days are:

Centennial Parklands wet weather line: 9339 6670,

Sydney City Council wet weather line: 9246 7708 for Reg Bartley Oval and Alexandria Oval.

As our main training ground at Latham Park is synthetic, we do not expect any of those training sessions to be washed-out throughout the season, unless we experience lightning. The same applies for our home ground at Moore Park Synthetic on weekends.

Q. What playing equipment does my child require?

A. You will need to purchase boots and shin-pads for your child. At these age groups we recommend you do not purchase expensive boots, as your child will grow out of them quickly. Players need to wear their boots & shin-pads to both training and the games. Children who forget to bring either will not be permitted to participate — so please don't forget. Please, also bring a water bottle and sunblock. Goalkeepers will need to purchase their own gloves. All players will be provided with a ball which they must bring to training each time.

Q. When does the Season start & finish?

A. Pre-season will commence in the first week of March and the season proper will commence on the weekend of the 4th/5th April and end of August 15th/16th. Semi-finals and Grand Finals will be played for the U12-U18 Age Groups (if they make it) on the 22nd/23th August and 29th/30th August. Dunbar Rovers will also hold its annual MiniRoos and Juniors End of Season Gala Day trophy presentation and luncheon on the last Saturday in August to end the season.

Q. How many games are there per season?

A. Between 15 – 18 rounds have been scheduled depending on the Age Group, but washed-out games will not be replayed for the U8 – U12 non-competitive leagues. Only teams playing in competitive leagues from U12 to U18 will have washed-out matches re-scheduled. All U12 to U18 competitive first teams will also play in the FNSW State Cup (on Sundays commencing in March) and possibly the Kanga Cup in Canberra, in the July school holidays, plus the end of season Champions of Champions, if they win their local league. As such we expect our teams (depending upon the Age Group) to play a 20 – 30 game season including Pre-season trial matches in March.

Q. Who organizes and maintains the competition?

A. The local league is run by the Eastern Suburbs Football Association (ESFA). ESFA co-ordinates the competition and each of the Club administrators/volunteers manage the day to day operations.



Q. Is my child allowed to wear their glasses?

A. Players are only permitted to wear approved SPORTS glasses when playing or training. Normal glasses must not be worn. No jewellery or watches are to be worn.

Q. What size ball do they play with?

A. U5 to U9 use a size-3 ball and the U10, U11, U12, U13 boys and girls all use a size 4 ball. From U14 up, they use a size-5 ball. Each player receives a new ball (which you keep) at the beginning of the season and are required to bring to all training sessions (please don't bring your ball to matches, only training).

Q. As a parent, what do I need to provide?

A. You will need to provide studded soccer boots, shin-pads, water bottle, transportation and lots of positive support. If you would like to sponsor your child's team or assist in a volunteer capacity (team manager, barbeque, fundraising, half-time oranges supplier, raise sponsorship, etc.), please let us know, thanks.

Q. What is the annual fee per child and what does my child receive for the fee?

A. The fees are \$450 per season for kids turning 5, 6 and 7; \$550 per season for every player aged from U8 – U12 who train once a week and play in a Social Team; \$850 for the U9, U10, U11 and U12 Development Teams; and \$950 for U13 to U18 Development Teams, who play a longer season and train twice a week with highly qualified coaches.

An additional fee of \$300 per player will be charged to all Development Squad players from U13 – U18 for the Narrabeen Fitness Camp Weekend on the 15th/16th February. If we take any teams to the Kanga Cup in July this will be an additional fee.

Active Kids voucher – please apply to Service NSW for your \$100 rebate on all sports registrations paid, this will effectively reduce your total outgoing by \$100. The link is <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids>.

Q. What if I can't afford the fees, is there a reduced-price offering, payment plan or a way of working it off doing some work for the Club?

A. Dunbar Rovers does not discriminate on price, instead we offer hardship cases whereby we offer reduced prices, payment plans or even "Fee-Free Football" to allow ALL young players to learn to play football. We can arrange for a limited number of parents or players to do some volunteer work instead of paying full fees if required. Parents are requested to speak with Gerry Frittmann if they require relief, or can act in a volunteer capacity to raise funds (run the barbeque etc.).



Q. What does my child receive from the club?

A. Each child receives a full playing kit (playing shirt, shorts and socks, wet weather jacket) plus a ball and End of Season trophy (for kids age 5 to 12 only). All FFA insurance/registration fees, ground hire costs, coaching costs, etc. are also included in the annual fee. The U12 to U18 Development Teams will also receive additional training kits and a tracksuit top. Additional items of clothing can be purchased as well.

Q. Will each team be provided with a coach?

A. Yes. Our point of difference is that we provide a qualified coach for every team across every age group who will be available to take your team's training sessions and attend on match days. On the occasions your coach is not available we will provide a replacement coach who is also part of our program. All Social and Development Teams will be provided with qualified coaches.

Q. Who are the coaches?

A. Our Technical Director/Head Coach is Christian Soares, from International Porto Alegre in Brazil, Christian oversees each training session and maintains the high standards required to effectively implement the FFA Coaching Curriculum. Christian holds an AFC B-Licence and a degree in Physical Education, Christian also oversees a team of experienced senior coaches and our up and coming juniors coaches, all of whom have various levels of coaching certificates and have played representative football in the NPL State Leagues over the past few years. All coaches have completed Working With Children checks.

Generally, we do not allow parents to coach their own child's team unless they have a high-level coaching qualification, but if anyone would like to coach a different team than their child's team, we would be happy to hear from you. This can work if the child is playing and training at the same time/place as their child's team OR plays at a different time on the weekend.

Q. When does the Season end and how does my child get his End of Season trophy?

A. The season concludes on Saturday the 29th August when the club holds its annual End of Season event consisting of intra-club Gala Day matches, a lunch for players and parents as well as each team's trophy presentation, a small fee of \$20 per player/parent will be charged to cover the cost of the hall hire, ground hire fees, plus food (mixed meats and healthy salads) and drinks.

All kids playing in non-competitive team age groups (U6 – U12) will receive an End of Season trophy, for all older competitive age groups only the 3 players selected for End of Season player awards will be awarded with a trophy.

Q. How do I register my interest to play for Dunbar Rovers juniors in 2020?

A. Please fill in your details on the following link and you will then get weekly update emails leading up to the Season with more details.



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdy8bFT1jpkbbh8wkTkjf5-l6Oog1d0MuiT6NgoEmRb5NsZSg/viewform?usp=sf_link

A formal registration will be required through the new FFA platform which will go live in February 2020 – each parent will be required to register their child, enter their Active Kids voucher, and pay the fees through this new portal – we will provide further information when it comes to hand.

Q. How can you help with fundraising, volunteering and sponsorships?

A. The cost of playing football in Australia has been a contentious issue for some time. Dunbar Rovers have attempted to address this issue by raising funds from sponsors to provide “Fee-Free Football” for all of its representative NPL teams, but we need to do more so we can roll this out further across local ESFA teams.

Unlike overseas, where the clubs also run their own football schools which are called ‘Academies’, as part of their development pathway, in Australia, junior clubs have largely been community based and volunteer led, whereby the level of coaching has not been up to the required standard sought by aspiring players/parents – this is why private Academies have boomed in Australia and the cost of getting high level coaching has become expensive and unaffordable for some.

Dunbar Rovers attempts to reverse this trend and act more like clubs overseas who engage their own senior coaches and develop their own junior coaches, thus providing an Academy-style service at a far lower cost. To assist us keep the price down, we seek your support to:

- Sponsor your child’s team (\$500 - \$1,000 per team).
- Attract additional Club sponsors (minimum \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000). Sponsor packages are available.
- Volunteer for fundraising activities (assist with Bunnings Barbeque Day OR the End of Season Dunbar presentation, and Gala Day)

Q. Does Dunbar also run a summer football program?

A. Yes, each year we also enter teams across all age groups (U8 to U18) in either the All Sorts Futsal competition OR the Hensley Athletic Field summer 7-a-side competition. We also train weekly through summer. The cost for summer will be \$495 per player playing in a summer team. The summer program will commence in early September and finish in early December.

Q. What is the difference between Dunbar Rovers model compared to other clubs?

A. Dunbar Rovers FC is a progressive Club with teams playing across all levels of NSW, and local competitions including the FNSW National Premier Leagues, starting from U13 boys up to All Age Men, FNSW Girls Conference League for girls in U14, U15 and U17, plus Juniors commencing at U6 to U18 and All Age Men’s and Women’s teams playing in the local Eastern Suburbs Football Association. In total we have around 800 players.

Dunbar Rovers is a true Development Club which hires highly qualified coaches, quality training grounds and provides quality playing kits to all of its players, all within a reasonable price compared to other clubs/programs.

Even with our local Junior teams we provide a coach for every team which no club has ever done, we are proud of our offering which attempts to put player and coach development first, without the politics.