



THE BACKGROUND.

Dunbar Rovers FC would like to build on the success of their “NPL Development Squad” concept that the club initiated in 2017. Some of the highlights of the program over the past 3 years were:

- Over 70 players have been transferred to NPL or SAP teams after undertaking our Development Program over the past 3 seasons, some in the May/June transfer window and others at the end of season trials;
- Both the mixed U13/U14 Division 1 and U15/U16 Division 1 Development Teams won their respective Grand Finals in 2017;
- FIVE out of the SIX Development Teams aged U12 – U18 made the Finals in 2018, two made the Grand Final with the U15 winning their competition and Grand Final in 2018;
- FOUR out of the FIVE Development Teams aged U13 – U16 made the Finals in 2019, two made the Grand Final with both the U13 winning their competition and Grand Final and the U16 also winning the Grand Final in 2019;
- Players and parents felt that the program was worthwhile and enjoyed the experience of having their football further developed, so they were better prepared to make an NPL or SAP team in the following year.

THE CONCEPT.

- Dunbar Rovers FC NPL trials are guaranteed to be over-subscribed;
- The reality is that a lot of quality players will not be offered NPL positions at the Club, even though there will not be a huge gap between some of those selected and those not;
- Some of these players might find places at other NPL clubs, but many won't;
- Dunbar Rovers FC would like to offer an opportunity for these players to join our Club, where they will:
 - Be well coached in a professionally run environment;
 - Train twice a week from February to August and play a 30 plus match season, like NPL teams;
 - Play in a team with other aspiring and talented players;
 - Put themselves in the shop window for NPL or SAP selection, should the chance present itself;
 - Be under the radar of our NPL coaches.

THE OBJECTIVES.

1. Provide a high-performance environment to help with player and coach development at Dunbar Rovers Juniors;
2. Provide a quality product at a reasonable price;
3. Have a ready supply of players who could be good enough to come into NPL if required during the May/June transfer window;
4. Players already signed to an NPL contract would be kept on their toes knowing that there are aspiring Junior Development Program (JDP) players breathing down their necks;
5. Provide opportunities for players to play up an Age Group if they deserve it, based on their performances.



THE APPROACH.

- The JDP will be run by our Technical Director Christian Soares to NPL standards, under the banner of Dunbar Rovers Juniors.
- In the 2020 Season we will grow our program to include U9, U10 and U11, in addition to running the following age groups:
 - Under 12
 - Under 13
 - Under 14
 - Under 15
 - Under 16
 - Under 18
- The teams will be entered into the Championship division competition in the Eastern Suburbs Football Association (ESFA) for the relevant Age Group.
- In addition, each team will also play in the NSW State Cup, Kanga Cup (optional) and should a team win their respective competition it also entitles them to represent ESFA in the NSW Champion of Champions tournament after the season ends. We will also play up to 6 Pre-season trial matches. which in total would add provide a minimum 30 match season from February to August, and even longer if they qualify for the Champion of Champions, which commences mid-September and runs to mid-October if a team progresses all the way to the Final.

THE TRIALS.

- The JDP Trials will be held for U12 to U18 on Friday, 31st January at Mission Fields inside Centennial Park at 5pm to 8pm for all ages. Trials for U9, U10 and U11 will be held on Friday, the 21st February at the same location and timeslot;
- We would like to offer any players who missed selection in an NPL club or who wish to further their football development the opportunity to play in a quality environment where they can further develop their football;
- We will communicate via email and social media, etc, for Expression of Interests to trial after the NPL trials finish;
- The JDP trials will be run by the Dunbar Juniors Technical Director and the coaching staff.