



NOTE FOR PARENTS

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline some of the philosophies of the club as well as some of the expectations of parents in supporting their children. Your support of your child at this club is encouraged and indeed deemed essential by Waitemata FC.

Attendance/Attire

Please ensure that your child arrives at training and games on time. If training starts at 4.30pm, it means that players need to be where their coach is and ready to train at 4.30pm.

If your child is unable to attend or is going to be late, please let their coach know as soon as practicably possible.

Please ensure that your child is appropriately attired for training – football shorts and socks with clean boots and shin pads worn under long football socks.

All players must bring a water bottle to every training/game.

Cancellations

You can also check our website or Facebook page for updates on ground closures which are usually posted by 2.30pm on the day of training. If you are in doubt, please contact your coach or the Waitemata FC Director of Football Dan Johnston (dof@waitematafc.org.nz or 021 298 2566).

Selection Policy

4th - 8th grade

Children will be mixed in to different groups every week for both training and games. This gives our young players the opportunity to play with different children (making new friends and developing socialising skills) and the benefit of having different coaches (giving the opportunity to learn a variety of new skills).

9th- 12th grade (juniors)

Our young players will be selected into teams based on friendship groups, association to a coach, or general allocation. No results or league tables will be published by Northern Regional Football. This approach aligns with NZFs thinking - that children who have fun in sport, stay in sport.

13th - 17th grade (youth)

At youth level, teams are graded by Northern Regional Football (NRF) and placed in a suitable competition for their level. We use pre-season Muster Training Sessions to place players in the appropriate team.

All players can expect a minimum of half a game for which they have been selected, barring injury/illness.

Waitemata FC has a policy to select players in the correct age grade whenever possible. From time to time, players may be selected to play up/down an age grade.

All dispensations need to be approved by Waitemata FC director of football.



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Communication with Coaches

It is important that any non-attendance or lateness to any training session or game is communicated to the coach in a timely fashion. Failure to do so makes for a less than organised session.

Please keep face to face communication prior to trainings and games to a minimum as coaches are often busy setting up/organising during this time. If you wish to talk to the coach, the appropriate time is after the training/game, when the gear has been packed up and the players have been dismissed.

Communication with Players

It is very important that all communication with your child regarding their football is positive. More junior/youth players give up playing football because of pressure from parents/coaches than for any other reason.

Please do not tell your child or any other child what to do while they are playing. Part of the child's development is about the coach teaching players to make good decisions. They must be allowed to make their own decisions and learn from the mistakes they make, to develop. Criticism will often lead them to not trying that again. We will be encouraging the players to try new things and to be brave on the ball, so mistakes are inevitable.

Your child will be asked to play in different positions at different times. This is part of their development as rounded footballers. Understanding other positions will help in their understanding of their preferred position.

Side-line Behaviour

This has become a major issue for all sports. The number one reason why young sports people stop playing is due to parent/coach side-line pressure.

Waitemata FC takes a dim view of any criticism of match officials, whether it be from players, coaches or spectators. In New Zealand, we are desperately short of referees, with many having left the game due to the abuse they receive from players, coaches and spectators alike. Referees will make mistakes; they don't need to be criticised or abused for them.

Please don't get into disputes/arguments with opposition spectators or officials. Be the better person and let it go.

Dispute Resolution

If you are unhappy with any situation regarding your child at Waitemata Football Club, the first person you should talk to is their coach. But please do this at an appropriate time – not during training/game time and away from other people.

If you have spoken with the coach and you are not happy with the resolution, then speak to WFC director of football dof@waitematafc.org.nz

Failing the above, the matter should be taken up with the WFC Club President president@waitematafc.org.nz



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Measuring Success

We will be trying to win every game we play. However, winning will never be at the expense of player development. For coaches, the result is far less important than the way we play. All players and teams at Waitemata FC will be taught to value possession, to play out from the back, to play with pace, to be creative, to be patient, and to apply intelligent pressure defensively. How well we do the above will be our measurement of success, not just the result.

Injuries

It is very important that any injuries are reported to your coach as soon as they occur. It is also very important to get a diagnosis and treatment plan from a health professional as soon as possible. All football related injuries should be covered by ACC, so should result in minimal cost. Players should not be encouraged to play with injury (other than minor knocks) as this could lead to more serious injury and longer out of the game.

Playing Strip

All Waitemata FC players will be required to wear the club playing shirt supplied by Ultra Football. You can purchase all Waitemata FC football apparel and supporters gear by clicking [here](#). The club holds some stock - contact the director of football to find out if we have your size.

We have also created a club buy, swap sell page on facebook where you can buy, sell or swap club apparel. Click [here](#) to join

Administration

All players must register via a link sent out by WFC at the beginning of the season. Unregistered players will not be considered for selection.

All fees must be paid by the start of the playing season. If you have any difficulty paying fees or registering your child, please contact the WFC administration admin@waitematafc.org.nz

2023 Fees

Little league (4th-5th grade) \$95

First Kicks (6th-8th grade) \$145

Juniors (9th-12th grade) \$195

Youth (13th-17th grade) \$195

Seniors (team fee) \$4,000

Key WFC contacts

Club President

Email – president@waitematafc.org.nz

Director of Football

Email – dof@waitematafc.org.nz

Club administrator

Email – admin@waitematafc.org.nz