



PARENT & PLAYER HANDBOOK

2022 Season



**FOOTBALL
AUSTRALIA**



**FOOTBALL
QUEENSLAND**

WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB

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Welcome to the 2022 Season with the Wanderers Football Club

A Place to Learn, Play and Develop a Love for the Game.

A Pathway for the Sunshine Coast.

This handbook sets out what you can expect from the club, and what the club expects from you in return. When you sign on as a member of the Club you are accepting your responsibilities as outlined below.

1 Mission Statement

The *Wanderers* Football Club –

- Will become the Sunshine Coast region's **leading club** for **high performance** football.
- Will contribute to the Sunshine Coast region **through sport in an inclusive and diverse environment**.
- Will encourage and support our members to **develop** their football skills and **build knowledge**.
- Will play football in a **positive and respectful** manner towards all match officials, other players, managers, spectators, and committee members.
- Will continue to **build relationships** with the broader Sunshine Coast football family and **engage local support** to achieve our goals.

2 Team Selection

All players will participate in their respective age groups, determined by their year of birth as per Football Queensland guidelines.

2.1 Competition Team Selection

Selections will be via a selection process devised at the discretion of the Technical Director. Teams will be selected based on factors, including but not limited to; ability, conduct in line with club values, attitude, and commitment. Final decisions on team selections will be through consultation between the Technical Director and coaching staff.

2.2 MiniRoos Team Selection

Children are encouraged to play with their friends in non-premiership football (SSF).

2.3 Team Squad Size

2.3.1 MiniRoos Football Squad Numbers

In all non-competitive (non-premiership) age teams minimum and maximum squad numbers are as follows:

- Under 6–7 MiniRoos Teams (In House 4 v 4)
Minimum Squad numbers 4 Maximum Squad Numbers 6
- Under 8 MiniRoos Teams (In House 7 v 7)
Minimum Squad numbers 7 Maximum Squad Numbers 10
- Under 9 MiniRoos teams (Home and Away 7 v 7)
Minimum Squad numbers 8 Maximum Squad Numbers 10

- Under 10–12 MiniRoos Teams (Home and Away 9 v 9)
Minimum Squad numbers 10 Maximum Squad Numbers 13

In all competitive age team's minimum and maximum squad numbers are as follows:

- Recreational Competition Teams
Minimum Squad numbers: 12 Maximum Squad Numbers: 16
- Junior High-Performance Teams
Minimum Squad numbers 14 Maximum Squad Numbers 18
- Senior Men / Women Teams
Minimum Squad numbers 14 Maximum Squad Numbers 18

3 Player Participation

All players and parents must understand that there are no guarantees on the amount of game time a given player will get. Each team has its distinct make-up, and coaches consider many factors when deciding time on the field, eg. attitude, attendance to training and games. Playing time will be determined by the coaching staff, based on players meeting realistic roles and expectations that have been clearly communicated to them by the coaching staff throughout the season.

BWFC aims to keep a balance between being competitive and developing our players for the future. However, there are distinctions between an expectation of game time for our different teams. Below are the guidelines given to coaches.

BWFC MINIROOS U6–U12: We play to learn through fun.

- The aim of the coach should be to give all players equal time on the field in all games. Several factors will impact this, including injuries, the health of players on the day of each game, and the mathematical logistics of splitting time evenly.

SCW SAP U9–U12: We play to develop players.

- There may be a starting line-up, but players should be rotated on a reasonable basis based on skill performance and team dynamics. Most games, all players should get some game time. If the team makes the final, then the culture of older divisions applies.

BWFC U13-U18 and SCW U13-U18: We strive to compete.

- Winning is not everything and coaches are encouraged to develop players within teams; however, for close games, the coach has the discretion to put the best group forward.

BWFC U23-Seniors and SCW U23-Seniors: We play to achieve our highest results.

- The coach has total discretion over game time. Bench players are given roles and must realise that they are there to support the players who have the bulk of the minutes. Some games players may only see the pitch for limited minutes, potentially not at all in big games.

4 Duties and Responsibilities of Coaches and Managers

4.1 Coaches

All Coaches shall be responsible for the identification, selection, and ongoing development of the players in their care under the direct supervision of the TD. They should:

- Familiarise themselves with all information contained within the provided by TDs, Football Queensland and Sunshine Coast specific competition rules.
- Officially register as a coach or manager on Play Football.
- Ensure that every player under their control is eligible for participation in trials, pre-season, and competition games and is not under suspension for any reason. Also, to be eligible for trials and selection, all fees must be finalised or payment plan in place.

- d. Be responsible for the behaviour of the players when present.
- e. Where possible, be available to attend coach education opportunities presented by the club.
- f. Be responsible for all club equipment issued to the team.
- g. Act in a reasonable manner, in accordance with the club's Code of Conduct.
- h. Be available for all training sessions, prepared and on time; or make arrangements for another coach to take the team if unavailable.
- i. Attend club meetings as required.
- j. As a coach follow 'Working With Children in Queensland' (Blue Card) requirements.

4.2 Team Manager

The Team Manager shall:

- a. Familiarise themselves with all information contained within this handbook, the Wanderers Managers Guide 2020 and current Football Queensland competition rules.
- b. Officially register as a volunteer/ manager on 'Play Football'.
- c. Obtain a list containing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all players in the team.
- d. Be the main point of communication between the Committee and the team, via the appropriate point of contact
- e. Develop communication streams for contacting players and parents, particularly in situations of inclement weather when the fields may be closed and training/games cancelled.
- f. Always abide by the decision of the team coach in matters relating to the team
- g. Ensure that if any players leave the team or club, the Club administration is notified as soon as possible
- h. Obtain the draw for the season and be familiar with the venue for all games and their locations before the first competition game
- i. Ensure all players are made aware of times and venues for each game
- j. As a manager follow 'Working With Children in Queensland' (Blue Card) requirements.
- k. Be responsible for the behaviour of the players when present
- l. Ensure that players are sun safe and kept hydrated
- m. Either the coach or manager should remain with players until someone arrives to collect them after training sessions or games.
- n. Support BWFC Club to encourage players and parents to volunteer at the Club eg. canteen, working bees, grounds work.

5 Duties & Responsibility of Parents/Guardians

Parents and Guardians shall:

- a. Other than during a game, or a training session, the parent/guardian is responsible for the safety and behaviour of their child, at BWFC home ground, or away venues.
- b. Ensure that their player is properly attired in the approved club outfit, see section 11.
- c. Notify the coach/manager if their player cannot attend training or the game within reasonable time frames.
- d. Ensure that their player arrives at the ground in good time for training and games (times at the direction of the team coach).
- e. Not expect the coach/manager to transport your child anywhere.
- f. Support the team and not just individual players.
- g. Treat the game as enjoyment for your child and promote good sportsmanship.
- h. Comply with the Code of Conduct as published by the club.
- i. Observe the ground rules at home and away venues.
- j. Instil in your child the need for respect for the coach, manager, teammates and opposing players, officials, and coaches, etc.
- k. Pick your children up on time or make other arrangements.
- l. Inform the coach or manager about any changes in arrangements for picking up your child.

- m. Support your Club by providing some time as a volunteer throughout the season, eg. as a manager, helping in the canteen/ bar, involving yourself in grounds work or working bees, fundraising.

6 Duties & Responsibility of Players (Attitude)

Players shall:

- a. **Respect and Discipline:** Discipline is an essential foundation for our sport! Players will always show respect towards teammates and other people whether part of the Club, or members of the community, be they coaches, officials, other parents, players, or general members of the public. Players will follow the rules of the Club and game.
- b. **Commitment** Players will attend training sessions and when unavailable notify their manager. Players will do their best at all training sessions and games and on time. Together, it is our ambition to develop ourselves to achieve great things using discipline as an instrumental tool to success on and off the pitch.
- c. **Teamwork** One superb talent can win games. But a lot of great talents working together as a team will win Championships! Players will work together cohesively with their team towards our goal, creating a positive training / game atmosphere and supporting each other to combine our individual strengths to enhance our team's overall performance. Players will volunteer at the Club during the season.
- d. **Sportsmanship** The advancement of Sportsmanship is our aspiration and mentality and is just as important as the development of football skills and fitness. We embrace sportsmanship as fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors. Players will always remind ourselves that being a "good loser" and a "good winner" is the definition of Sportsmanship.

7 Duties & Responsibility of Ground Officials

Queensland Football requires that all teams should supply a ground officials at every game (home or away). At Miniroos, junior and senior away games one ground official is needed. At junior and senior home games the team manager will appoint two ground officials on a roster basis, one to act as a general ground official and one to escort the referees to and from the change room at the start and end of each game, and;

- a. Must wear a ground official vest.
- b. Must be on hand and ready to deal with issues as they arise.
- c. Must ensure spectators are well behaved and observe their code of conduct.
- d. Report any incidents to the team manager to pass on to the respective Committee.
- e. Ensure nobody, other than team officials and players, enters the technical area.
- f. Be consistent, objective and courteous in dealing with unruliness.
- g. Do not use derogatory language.

8 Codes of Behaviour

8.1 Coaches

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

This code is designed:

- To emphasise the elements of enjoyment and satisfaction to junior players and coaches involved in football.
- To make adults, including parents and coaches, aware that young players play football to satisfy themselves and not necessarily to satisfy adults or members of their peer group.

- To improve the overall health and fitness of Australia's youth by encouraging participation in football and making it attractive, safe, and enjoyable for all to play.
- To remind administrators, coaches, referees, and parents that football must be administered, taught, and provided, for the good of those young people who wish to play football, as ultimately, 'It is their game.'

8.2 Coach's Code of Ethics

- I will respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all players and ensure that everyone is treated equally.
- I will ensure that the players are involved in a positive environment and that the game and training is a positive and enjoyable experience.
- I will respect all players' individuality and help them reach their full potential.
- I will be fair, considerate, and honest with all players.
- I will be professional and accept responsibility for my actions and encourage players to demonstrate the same qualities.
- I will make a commitment to my team and myself that I will continue to improve my own knowledge of the game through coach education and various training programs.
- I will coach my players to play within the rules and in the spirit of the game of football.
- I will avoid any physical contact with the players, and should it be required; it would be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards my players. Also, be aware of any forms of abuse directed towards my players from other sources training they are in my care.
- I will refrain from any form of harassment towards my players.
- I will provide a safe environment for training and competition by ensuring the equipment and facilities meet safety standards.
- I will show concern and caution towards sick and injured players and allow for further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.
- I will not engage in the use of crude, foul, or abusive language that may be determined offensive or engage in any conduct detrimental to the image of the game when on or off the field.
- I will refrain from arguing with the referee and/or assistant referees regarding the decisions they make.
- I will treat participants, officials, and spectators with courtesy and respect.
- I will always encourage my team to play within the laws of the game.
- I will not consent to the use of any banned substance or drugs of dependence by my players.
- I will act in a responsible manner and accept responsibility for my actions.

8.3 Players

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS:

- Play by the rules. It is just as important to understand the spirit of the rules. They are designed to make the game fun to play and fun to watch. By sticking to the rules, you will enjoy the game more;
- Play to win. Winning is the object of playing any game. Never set out to lose. If you do not play to win, you are cheating your opponents, deceiving those who are watching, and also fooling yourself. Never give up against stronger opponents but never relent against weaker ones;
- Play fair. Winning is without value if victory has been achieved unfairly or dishonestly. Playing fair requires courage and character and is more satisfying. Playing fair earns you respect, while cheats are detested;
- Refrain from conduct which may be regarded as sexual harassment towards fellow players and coaches;
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach, or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition. Fair play means respect. Referees are there to maintain discipline and fair play;

- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent, are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport;
- Be honest with the coach concerning illness and injury and ability to train and compete to the best of your ability;
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit, and so will you. A professional appearance relating to language, manner, temper, and punctuality is to be adopted at all times;
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition;
- Accept defeat with dignity. Nobody wins all the time. Learn to lose graciously. Don't seek excuses for defeat. Genuine reasons will always be self-evident. Congratulate the winners with good grace. Don't blame the referee or anyone else. Good losers earn more respect than bad winners;
- Promote the interests of football; it is the world's greatest game. Think of football's interests before your own. Think about how your actions may affect the image of the game. Talk about the positive things in the game. Encourage other people to watch it or play it fairly. Be an ambassador for the game;
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor. Reject corruption, drugs, racism, violence, and other dangers to our sport. Watch out for attempts to tempt you into cheating or using drugs. Drugs have no place in football or in our society. Say no to drugs;
- Help others to resist corrupting pressures. You may hear that team-mates or other people you know are being tempted to cheat in some way. Give them the strength to resist. Remind them of their commitment to their team-mates and to the game itself. Form a block of solidarity, like a solid defence on the field of play;
- Co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.
- They have the same rights as you have, including the right to be respected;
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches;
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion;
- Denounce those who attempt to discredit our sport. Don't be ashamed to show up anybody who you are sure is trying to make others cheat. It's better to expose them and have them removed before they can do any damage. It often takes more courage to denounce what is wrong, than to go along with a dishonest plan;
- Honour those who defend football's good reputation. The good name of football has survived because the vast majority of people who love the game are honest and fair. Sometimes somebody does something exceptional that deserves our special recognition. They should be honoured and their fine example made public. This encourages others to act in the same way.

8.4 Spectators & Parents

Parents are **NOT** permitted to give instructions to any player while in the care of the coach or manager.

It is not acceptable for a parent to provide coaching instructions to their children before, during, or after games or training. This information may conflict with the coaches' instructions.

The Club encourages parents to provide positive support to the team.

'Something is not right if you find yourself Getting angry Shouting at the referee Grouping together with other parents getting angry, making lots of sarcastic comments aimed at the opposition parents, coach, or players. If you find yourself doing any of these things, then pull your head in. Believe it or not, your children don't like seeing their dad [or mum] in public getting angry.' - John Dybvig, Sunday Star Times

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA SPECTATORS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- A spectator present at a match or otherwise involved in any activity staged or sanctioned by FFA or an affiliated Member Federation, District Association or Club must:
- Respect the decisions of match officials and teach children to do the same.

- Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin.
- Not use violence in any form, whether it is against other spectators, team officials (including coaches), match officials or players.
- Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form, including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting.
- Comply with any terms of entry of a venue, including bag inspections, prohibited and restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to cause injury or public nuisance.
- Not, and must not attempt to, bring into a venue national or political flags or emblems (except for the recognized national flags of any of the competing teams) or offensive or inappropriate banners, whether written in English or a foreign language.
- Not throw missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators) and must not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority i) Conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of FFA and football generally.
- Any person who does not comply with this spectator code of behaviour or who otherwise causes a disturbance may be evicted from a venue and banned from attending future matches.

8.5 Misconduct

- Misconduct will lead to warnings, suspension or termination of membership and the release of the player. Subject to the Club's Constitution, the Club will follow a process of 3 strikes for misconduct, initially a warning will be given, that warning will be followed by a second warning advising if a further incident occurs the player risks suspension or termination depending on the nature of the misconduct, if there is a further incident suspension or termination of the player will result.
- Misconduct by parents and supporters may include restrictions on training and/or game attendance.
- Conduct issues for players include punctual attendance at training and attitude to both the Coach and other team players. A Coach may recommend game suspensions to the Head of Football for a player whose conduct at training is inappropriate.
- Where a grievance exists, please refer to the Grievance Process, see section 9 below.

9 Code of Practice

9.1 Training:

Training times and locations must be adhered to unless prior arrangements are made. Parents and siblings are also requested to stay clear of training areas during training times.

9.2 Off-Season Training

Coaches must consult with the Football Committee / Technical Director concerning any offseason training programs.

9.3 Pre-season Training

Notification of pre-season training will be provided by the Technical Director of Coaching and will be advised to other coaches via TeamsApp.

9.4 Shin Pad Policy

FIFA required that shin pads must be worn at all times during games.

Law 4 – FIFA Laws of the Game – Shin guards (are covered entirely by the stockings, are made of rubber, plastic or similar suitable material, provide a reasonable degree of protection).

Note - Junior Competition Football (all players under 18):

- The use of shin pads for ALL contact training and games is compulsory.
- Players not wearing shin pads to training will not be permitted to contact training or games.

9.5 Player Injury

All club officials, coaches, and managers should be aware that no medication or application of band-aids or creams or ointments are to be given to any injured junior player without parent/guardian consent

In the case of serious injury, professional assistance must be sought.

- a. Where players have been seriously injured, an ambulance should be called. The match officials will usually take control of player care while waiting for an ambulance, but parents are asked to step in if officials are themselves only youngsters.
- b. Under no circumstances should a seriously injured player be moved before the arrival of the ambulance, or without medical advice, even if that means holding up play for an extended period.

9.6 Injury Management Process

Definition: A serious injury is one that prevents a player from participating or completing training and or games.

Team officials (Coaches, Managers or Sports Trainers) need to follow the following procedures for recording and treatment of Players suffering serious injury:

- a. A team official must record any serious injury sustained by a player.
- b. All injuries are to be recorded on an Injury Report Form and forwarded to Club Administration.
- c. Complete the Injury Report Form in as much detail as possible.
- d. Injury Report Forms are to be made available to club recommended physiotherapist or medical personnel for a referral.
- e. Players suffering from a serious injury cannot return to training or participate in games until a full clearance (In writing) has been granted by the physiotherapist, either through triage or, treatment consultations or authorised medical practitioners.
- f. Coaches of injured players must make themselves aware of the progress of the player's treatment and must receive a clearance to train or play before permitting a player to resume activities.
- g. Coaches and Managers should be familiar with the [FFA Concussion Guidelines](#)
- h. Player insurance is provided by Football Queensland and the cost is included in the FQ component of player fees. If injured, players must log on at www.footballqueensland.com.au to lodge a claim within 90 days. All injuries must be reported to the club and we will need to sign off on the claim. For more information on what is covered please see
- i. www.footballqueensland.com.au.
- j. As the cover is limited, we recommend getting additional cover of your own or you can extend your coverage with Football Queensland's provider.

9.7 Team Dug-Out / Change Rooms:

Only players, or team officials eg. coaches, managers, and appointed sports trainers or medical officers are permitted in the team's dugout and change rooms unless otherwise authorized by a Club Official. Football Queensland requires that each of these team officials *MUST* be officially registered and in possession of an official identification card, which must easily visible.

No individual adults are to be in a change room with a single child/player unless they are the parent of that child/player.

Parents and siblings are also requested to stay clear of the team's preparation and half-time team talks.

9.8 Photography

There is a risk that images of children may be used inappropriately or illegally. The Wanderers Club require that individuals and associations obtain permission from a child's parent/guardian before taking an image

of a child who is not their own and ensure that the parent knows how the image will be used. We also require the privacy of others to be respected and disallow the use of camera phones, videos and cameras inside changing areas, showers and toilets which we control or are used in connection with our sport.

9.9 Release from the Club

A player's appointment prevents another prospective player from taking a position at the Club and release from the Club is not considered lightly.

Players will be released from the Club in the following circumstances:

- a. When accepting a position offered in a higher-level competition.
- b. When participating in State and National representative programs in Football and/or Futsal.
- c. Where an injury prevents the player completing a season.
- d. Where the player's family is moving from the greater Sunshine Coast area.

Players will **not** be released from the Club simply to transfer to another competing Club.

Should a player require a refund this will be done via the BWFC Refund Policy.

10 Uniforms

Players must have, and wear, a complete BWFC or SCWFC playing strip to play and represent the Wanderers Football Club.

10.1 The home playing strip consists of:

- MiniRoos – orange shirt and socks, black shorts;
- BWFC – orange shirt, black shorts and socks;
- SCW – gold shirt and socks and black shorts;

10.2 The change playing strip consists of:

- BWFC – Seniors; black shirt, shorts and socks;
- SCW – Juniors; white shirt, black shorts and socks.
- SCW – Seniors; white shirt and socks, black shorts;

10.3 Mandatory attire travelling (to and from games) uniform consists of:

- BWFC – Men's and Women's Senior Team are provided with a BWFC polo shirt to travel in.
- SCW – Wanderers polo shirt. Each team must collectively decide on whether they wish to wear long black pants, Gioca shorts or track pants and these must be consistently worn by the team. SCW soft shell jackets may also be worn to and from games.

Note - any tape used must match the sock colour.

Other non-compulsory BWFC and SCW merchandise items are also available for purchase.

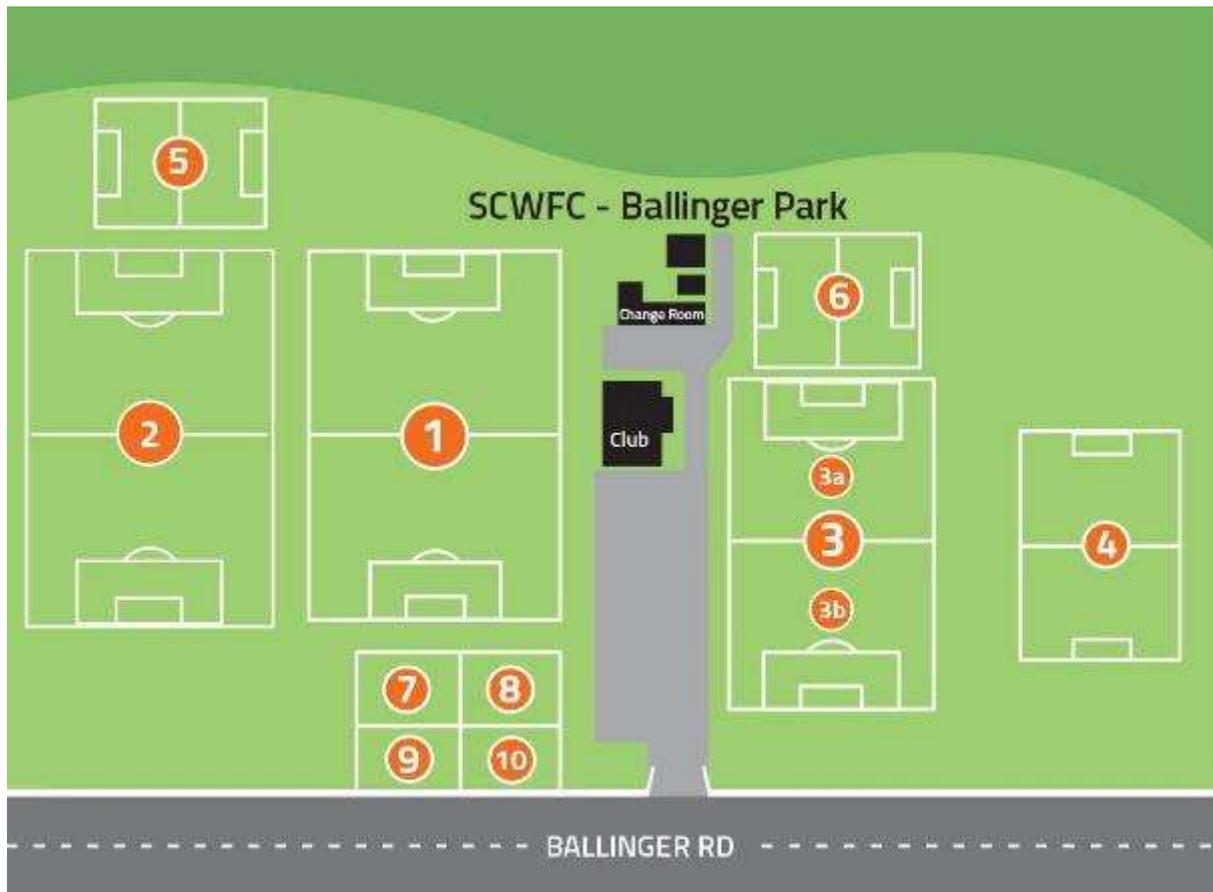
10.4 Club Kit - Ownership

Playing shirts used by SAP, Junior and Senior players will remain the property of WFC unless notified to the team manager at the end of the current season. The playing shirts and any numbered playing shorts, used by NPL Senior players, are to be returned, washed and in the Club kit bag, at the end of the season.,

11 Sponsorship

Members of the community are welcome to sponsor the Club. Anyone interested in being involved with the Club in this way should initially direct enquiries to the office. The sponsorship co-ordinator will then contact them. Alternatively complete the sponsorship enquiry form on the Club web page <https://www.wanderersfootball.com.au/sponsors>.

12 Ballinger Park Field Map



Please enter the grounds and turn immediately left. Traffic should move around the carpark in a clockwise direction.

13 COVID Specifics

- a. If a player or official is unwell they should not be allowed to commence a game and should be asked to leave the venue as per FQ Return to Play Guidelines.
- b. The manager is requested to remind all players and adults on the field, or in dugouts, to sign in using the electronic COVID attendance form– posters are up with the code around the club house.
- c. There is to be no sharing of bibs, clothing, water bottles or personal equipment on the field.
- d. There is to be no spitting at any time from anyone.
- e. Adults must maintain a social distance of 1.5m at all times, this includes the technical area and electronic sign into the Club whenever they are there.
- f. Prior to kick off, teams are expected to enter the field of play respecting social distancing.
- g. Players must respect social distancing when entering and leaving the field of play. Players are not to shake hands, high five etc their own teammates or opposition players.