



FREE KICK

Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2017 season - Vol. 01 - March 13, 2017

President's Message

Welcome everyone to season 2017!

"Everyone" includes all of last years members and of course every new member to the club and their families. Granville Waratah SFC is a club that serves the communities of Harris Park, Rosehill, Granville and Parramatta.

Our local area demographics, while high in families from the subcontinent, are rich and diverse and this is reflected in our club membership. We have a very transient community and as such every year we have a large percentage of new members to the club. And of course this trend is unlikely to change soon as it is predicted Parramatta's population is expected to double to 35,000 over the next decade.



It is wonderful to see the continued growth of our Minirosos and all the excited children at their first training. Thank you for choosing Granville Waratah SFC as your club. Parents, please don't forget to bring your cameras and take videos and photographs...these memories are priceless.

Of course with the increase in players and teams comes the need for more coaches and managers. We are all volunteers and need more parents to please put their hand up to help. This is your club and we cannot do it without you.

I joined the club in 1999 and believed my son was worth it...and so I became his coach. Today I coach two teams and one of those teams has my daughter in it. She is worth it...and so are all the other children. Coaching has its challenges but the rewards truly make it worthwhile. Seeing a child smile, develop, try, endure, deflate, persist, demonstrate sportsmanship and respect but most of all, enjoy the experience, makes it all worth it. These little moments are special and we will enjoy them together as a community.



As a son of migrant Lebanese parents I understand the challenges and priorities of migrant families...but parents, please believe me when I say, your children want you to be in this part of their lives. As a child I played soccer football for 7 years. As my father worked double shifts and was raising 6 children, finding time to watch me play was very difficult. In fact my father only ever watched me play once. I don't recall the score of that game on that day, I just remember I felt like a champion!

To make our club the best it can be we need your support. We want to be a family based club where we are a community within a larger community - both on a club and team level. The World Game is the perfect

environment to make friendships and come together towards common goals, that is, to see your child develop into better players and better people. The Club Committee does not underestimate the importance of these objectives and trust you don't either. So we encourage your contributions, input, ideas and efforts, but please remember any great idea needs people to donate their time to help put it into action. This is where we need your help.

Please feel comfortable to get in contact and approach your coach or committee member. Remember, in addition to the website, we have a Facebook page, Granville Waratah SFC, that I personally administer. Please ensure you like the page to get the latest updates and if you wish you can send a message.

So now it's important to get organized and get ready for our first game on Saturday 1st April. I trust you all have a great season.

Go the 'Tahs!!

Noel Dona, President.



Message from the club Registrar

Hi to all players and parents!

For those new to Granville Waratah SFC, here's some information that will help make everything run smoother for all associated with the club:

Water

Parents, please always ensure your child brings water to training! Football is a thirsty sport and hydration is important for their health. And they'll play better too!

Wet Weather

If there has been any significant amount of rain in the previous few days, the local council may close the fields even if it is fine at the time. If this happens we are not allowed to train or play. When daylight saving ends soon, the council will be able to enforce this by turning off the field lights (which they do if the field is closed) and that means no training. Here's hoping for a dry season!



We will put a message on our website by 3:30pm if the field is closed for training. Training is also called off if there is significant rain a bit before training starts (5:30-6.00), but for lighter or intermittent rain, we will leave coaches to make that call, assuming of course the council hasn't closed the field.

For game days, games are not called off just because it is wet an hour before kick-off, they are only called off if the field is closed by council or by the club with a notice on the website. Also, on wet game days, fields may be closed at different times through the day – you all know the song “Four Seasons in One Day”, it was actually written about our standard game day weather – so please always check the website before you go to your game!

Season Starts 1st April

Game details will soon be available on our website and the Club's Facebook page, and an iPhone and Android application will be available to help. Details will be on our website well before the first game.

The Canteen

At the centre of every club on game day Saturdays is the canteen, and we are no different. It's the place where coaches obtain Team Sheets, where players obtain ice packs or first aid and of course where snacks, drinks, and hot coffees for cold winter mornings are sold. The success of our canteen raises valuable funds to help with the operational costs of the club.

For the past 2 years the Canteen has been managed by the president's daughter Trinity Dona, ably assisted by the long-time club Treasurer, Vince Wyatt. This year Trinity is doing her HSC and can only spend little time to help with the Canteen. So this season we are looking for a new Canteen manager and then to implement a roster of volunteers to help out in the canteen. The manager doesn't do all the work! With fresh people come fresh ideas and that can only be a good thing.

Please consider what you can do to help and if you would like to volunteer in some way, please contact club President Noel Dona.

Rosters

When the season starts, some rosters will start to operate. When we have home games, the ground needs to be set up for the day. All the club's teams rotate to be on duty to help with the field preparation -- line markings, goal netting, rope-fences, etc. We usually roster 2 teams to split up the morning into 2 and so each team needs to ask for volunteers from within their circle of players and parents to provide at least 2 or 3 bodies to help out for about 2 hours for various light duties, nothing too strenuous! It usually works out that you only perform this task twice during a season.



It is also the task of each team to organise rosters to get the team jerseys cleaned. This is usually the task of the team manager who organises the roster for each player and their parents but it's up to the team to organise.

All-Girl Teams

We currently have a few female players scattered through our age groups but not enough to form an entire team. It is our fervent hope to be able to start fielding all-girl teams in the near future. Please encourage all the age-eligible people you know who are female to sign on to this dream of ours to make soccer a truly mixed sport!

Future Newsletter Editions

The plan for the newsletter is to keep you informed of events involving the club in a way that encourages you to read and get you waiting eagerly for the next edition. Here are the regular features we hope to include:

Feature player(s) of the week – we can't let hat tricks go unheralded, great saves go unnoticed, and fail to have the grinning happy faces of your children adorning these pages! Please take photos of our players in action and write stories about their heroic efforts, then send them to the club Registrar at (registrar@granvillewaratah.com.au)



Featured match report of the week – in order to have the afore-mentioned players of the week, we desperately need accurate and passionately written match reports of game day matches. The coaches are our preference for who should write the report, but anyone can write one as long as the task is performed. The best ones will get

featured in the newsletter for all to read so each team should work out now who the budding sports journalists are and to recruit them to the task!

Calendar of Events – the newsletter will serve as your one-stop place for all the next month’s club events. No fake news from us! The set up roster will feature, as well as invitations to any fund-raising efforts we can muster. Any parents particularly talented at organising & holding fundraisers should get in touch with the committee.

The next edition of the newsletter is due out in 2 weeks, and then will be produced weekly as the season will have started.

Coaches & Managers Meeting

Monday 27th March, 7pm

At the clubhouse, Robin Thomas Reserve

Please try your hardest to attend!

We would like to thank our major sponsor:



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