

GRANVILLE WARATAH SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB

"The Club for your FAMILY"

A proud member of the

GRANVILLE & DISTRICTS SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



SEASON 2024

INFORMATION HANDBOOK

UPDATED – 31 DECEMBER 2023

Our Home Ground for Season 2024 is

Belmore Park

Corner of Pennant Hills Rd & Castle St, NORTH PARRAMATTA

(Parking is available on Castle St and Pennant Hills)

Contents

<i>Proudly since 1901</i>	2
<i>“BEING THE OLDEST SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB IN WESTERN SYDNEY IS NOT JUST AN HONOUR, IT’S A RESPONSIBILITY!”</i>	2
President’s Message.....	3
Season 2023 Key Dates.....	4
Club Contacts.....	4
A Quicker-Starter Guide to Soccer with Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club.....	5
G-WOW DAY: Granville Waratah Orientation and Welcome for Mini-Roos (Ages 5 to 11).....	5
Player Registration Requirements.....	5
Player Requirements.....	6
Coaches and Managers.....	6
Granville Waratah is a part of the GDSFA.....	7
Playing Football with Granville Waratah SFC is a COMMITMENT to your team and club.....	7
Waratah Bud Program.....	8
Mini-Roos: Under 6 to 11.....	8
Competitive Football: Under 12’s and older.....	9
X League.....	9
Female Football.....	9
Finding out where and when your games are on.....	10
Wet Weather.....	10
Game Day Procedure.....	11
Help your club run smoothly.....	12
General Information.....	13
Coaching and our Football Philosophy.....	13
Our Victory song.....	14

Proudly since 1901.



“BEING THE OLDEST SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB IN WESTERN SYDNEY IS NOT JUST AN HONOUR, IT’S A RESPONSIBILITY!”



President's Message

Welcome everyone to season 2024! Thank you for choosing Granville Waratah SFC as **THE CLUB FOR YOUR FAMILY**.

Last season was a great year being the first full year post Covid but we expect more in 2024! Our club membership grew to over 400 for the first time ever, and we expect that pattern to continue this season! No doubt the success of Matildamania will help that growth and so expect to see lots more girls and ladies join the club too.

Granville Waratah SFC serves the communities of Harris Park, Rosehill, Granville, Parramatta and North Parramatta.

Our local area demographic is 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 join the club. And of course, this trend is unlikely to change soon as it is predicted Parramatta's population is expected to double over the next decade.

On the back of our very successful Summer Skills Program we expect to see a big increase in our Mini-Roo teams (ages under 6's to 11's). This is very exciting for the children and their parents who discover the game and develop skills. This year we will be continuing our very successful **Waratah Bud Program for 3 to 5 year olds** – it's like a pre-school for Miniroos! Please don't forget to bring your cameras... take videos and photographs often... these memories are priceless.

Parents, please take note, **we are not a baby minding facility, we are a soccer football club**. We seek your active engagement in your child's participation, please.

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 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...and then I coached my 2 daughters**. They were worth it...and so are all the other children. For over two decades I have coached multiple teams, loving every minute of it! **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 for that game I felt like a champion! Make your child feel like a champion too!

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 the 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, thus we encourage your contributions, input, ideas and efforts, but please remember any great idea needs volunteers to donate their time to help put it into action.

Remember, in addition to the website, we have award winning Social Media - Facebook, Instagram and now Tik Tok pages - that I personally administer. Please ensure that you "like", follow and share these pages to get the latest updates and if you wish, you can send me a message, we encourage participation.

So now it's important to get organised and get ready for our first game on Saturday 6th April 2024. I trust you all have a great season.

Noel Dona

Club President

president@granvillewaratah.com.au



Season 2024 Key Dates

2023 Events	Date
Online Registration Opens	3 January
Registration Days (in person @ Belmore Park)	Every Tuesday in February between 6pm and 7pm (or as advertised)
MiniRoos G-WOW Day - For ages 5 to 11:	Wednesday 28 February
Training Commences	First week of March
Uniform Gear Sales	In late March and as advertised
Competition Commences - Round 1	Saturday 1 April
Coaches & Managers Meetings	Monthly or as advertised
Team Photo Day	TBA. Expected in July.
Grand Final Day	7 September
Trophy Presentation Days	TBA. *Expected in late September
Club Annual General Meeting	TBA. Expected in November

Please check the club's website: www.granvillewaratah.com.au for updates to this information

Club Contacts

Until a football player is placed into a team, feel free to contact the Club Secretary or Club Registrar if you have any questions. Once the football player is placed in a team, any questions you have is to be via your team Manager or Coach. If there is a matter that cannot be raised with the Coach and/or Manager, then please contact the Club Secretary or Registrar. All the key contacts for the club can be found on the Club's website:

<http://granvillewaratah.com/wp/contact/>

A Quicker-Starter Guide to Soccer with Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club

We are a volunteer community football soccer club playing in the Granville & Districts Soccer Football Association – a member of Football NSW – with membership open to anyone aged at least 4.5 years old. We train on week nights once or twice a week, depending on the age group, and then male (or mixed) teams play games on Saturday against other clubs in our Association (22 clubs in total). And All-female football teams play on Sundays. We play during the winter season from the start of April until the start of September. There are 18 rounds, 9 home games and 9 games away at other clubs.

Registration opens in January and training starts in the first week of March. Registration is for the entire season and is performed online. **Once the first Saturday game has been played, there can be no refunds on the registration fee.** Any registration cancelled before the first game will be refunded the full amount paid, via the method of original payment.

Apart from the registration fee, the only other cost will be for the club uniform. Shorts are \$25 and socks \$15. There is no need to buy the club jersey, each team has a kit (set of uniforms) that belongs to the club and is typically washed in turn by each team member (or their parents) and returned at the end of the season.

Lastly, we are a soccer club that works best with a healthy community consciousness – everything in the club gets done by volunteers, **and no-one is paid.** So, please help your team and club in any way you can, every team needs a coach and manager, please step forward if your team lacks one.

G-WOW DAY: Granville Waratah Orientation and Welcome for Mini-Roos (Ages 5 to 11)

We understand that the MiniRoos is where we attract many new members to our club every year and is our largest section of the club. Being new members, this Handbook serves to especially assist those new members but we recognise that many members still prefer the good old fashioned face to face meeting, so we hold G-WOW Days in February where parents and players can ask as many questions as they like and feel comfortable that Granville Waratah is good for them and their child/children.

G-WOW is also the day where we start to form teams and where **we ask parents to put their hands up to volunteer to be coaches. We will help and support you and there are free short courses offered by the Association to help you with your coaching adventure regardless of your knowledge and level of the game.**

Finally, G-WOW Day is the day to celebrate the start of your relationship with the club and the start of new friendships for you and your children. It is an exciting and informative day so it is essential (and a requirement) that you attend.

Player Registration Requirements

All players **MUST** prove their age in order to be registered by the club. The valid forms of identification (ID) are government issued like: Passport, Birth Certificate or Driver's Licence. Adults must provide a Photo ID like Passports or

a Driver's Licence. **WE MUST SIGHT YOUR ORIGINAL ID.** Please bring your proof of ID (original documentation) to the clubhouse on one of the days we are open BEFORE the season starts.

All players playing from the Under 8 age group and older are added to an Electronic Team Sheet in order to prove they are eligible to play for the current season. This is checked before each game starts. This requires a photograph to be taken of the player upon registration. This photograph must be renewed every three years.

Player Requirements

At Training

Shin pads** and soccer boots MUST be worn.
Water bottle with sufficient water for the session is strongly recommended.

On Game Day

Playing Shirt – provided by the club on the day and collected back after the game.
Club branded playing shorts and socks*.
Shin pads and soccer boots**.



* Please Note: This season all players will be provided with a training shirt.

**Shin pads MUST be worn during a game. The referee will ask you to leave the field without shin pads. Shin pads MUST also be worn during training otherwise you will not be covered by medical insurance in the case of any serious injury.

Coaches and Managers

Each team will be required to nominate a Manager. Your team may also like to nominate an Assistant Coach and Assistant Manager. For children's teams, Coaches and Managers and other helpers are, most often, drawn from the parents of the players in the team.

Any person coaching or managing a team with children under the age of 18 years **MUST** get a **Working with Children Check** number in order to register as a coach, manager or a volunteer.

Coaches & Managers Meetings are held on specified dates at specific locations (eg Rosehill Bowling Club) or occasionally via ZOOM. It is required that all Coaches and Managers attend. Please leave your children at home. These are important meetings that will disseminate key information, assist in the role of manager and coach, update on rules and regulations, and it is a chance for you to ask questions or raise any concerns.

If you have some interest in coaching, especially for Mini-Roo teams, please don't be hesitant or anxious about volunteering because you may not have any or limited experience, we are here to help and support you. All coaches are volunteers. **The club will provide help with training courses and on-going advice from our experienced coaches.** We will invite coaches to courses as we are made aware of them and please, ask committee members for help if you need it.



Granville Waratah is a part of the GDSFA

Granville Waratah is the oldest member of Australia's oldest soccer association: Granville & Districts Soccer Football Association, founded in 1900. There are currently 22 clubs affiliated to the Association across areas covered by the Cumberland and Parramatta City Councils, from Toongabbie and Holroyd in the west to Ermington and Lidcombe in the east. Please visit the Association's website for more information: <http://www.granvillesoccer.com.au/>

All teams in the GDSFA draw play 18 rounds of matches - 9 will be played at home and 9 will be played away. It is not necessarily the case that: if a game is played at home, the next week will be away. Please always check!

All Granville Waratah home games will be held at our home ground (see the 1st page for the location) but the away game location will depend on who the opposition team is and so some travel will be involved.

The 2024 season starts on Saturday 6th April with the last round being held on Saturday 17th August.

For the full-field age groups (Under 12 and older), there is the opportunity to play in the Finals. The top 4 teams from each division will play a semi final, final, Grand Final format to determine the Grand Champion. For these teams, their season will end when they are either knocked out or make the Grand Final which will be held on 6th September.

We always avoid playing during the Easter long weekend, and often we don't play during the Saturday in the middle of the July School holidays, however it is a designated "catch up" round for wet weather postponements so PLEASE TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT when planning your holiday vacations!

The season draw for all clubs and teams is usually published just before the season starts so we won't know fixture details until late March.

Playing Football with Granville Waratah SFC is a COMMITMENT to your team and club

It is essential to understand the importance of committing to your team and club. Committing to your team simply means you will turn up to training and to matches. Soccer isn't a sport where attendance is optional. If players don't turn up, the team suffers and if enough don't turn up, no-one plays! There's nothing worse than turning up on a cold Saturday morning when you could still be in bed to find out the opposition hasn't turned up and also didn't let anyone know. Would you believe that this still happens every year? Not in our club! If you know that you can't commit to playing at least 90-95% of the games against other clubs, then don't play this season, please.

Teams also need to commit to the club. The players need to show respect to the club's traditions of fair play and sportsmanship (we don't like players being shown red or yellow cards), but teams also need to be organised to ensure we don't forfeit games against other clubs. Our club incurs a fine for every forfeited match, up to as much as \$500 for not turning up. The fine is smaller if the club informs the Association with 3 days notice but we don't want ANY forfeited games, the fines just result in your registration fees going up.

Waratah Bud Program

This is a fun program to introduce 3, 4 and some 5 year olds to soccer football in readiness for when they are old enough and ready to play Miniroos. Every Saturday morning they (boys and girls) participate in a session involving some ball activities and skills drills to help introduce them to the game and develop confidence in a fun environment. All the kids are required to wear boots and shin guards and we will provide each player with a cool special Waratah Bud T-Shirt and socks!

Mini-Roos: Under 6 to 11

Mini-Roos play in non-competitive small-sided games (SSG), designed to focus on discovery of the game, participation, skills development, teamwork, friendship and enjoyment of the game rather than winning. The emphasis is on building confidence, improving and really enjoying Miniroo football.

Please remember that we cannot tell you where or at what time your child will be playing until the season draw has been finalised by the Association just prior to the start of the season, but it will be in the mornings.

Training is often conducted on a cooperative basis for all teams of the age group. Training is ideally facilitated by football coaches who will set up drills each session to help players “DISCOVER” the game. Please note that our coaches are all volunteers so please consider putting up your hand to coach your child’s team. Help and resources will be provided to all volunteers. For the 2024 season all MiniRoos will typically train on a Wednesdays (unless the coach organises differently) from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Remember to bring shin pads and water!

Eligibility for an age group is strict and determined by the age the player is on 31 December . For example, if a player is 6 years old on or before 31st December 2024, then that player is eligible to play in the Under 6 age group for the 2024 season (i.e. they are turning 6 at some stage during this year). A player may play in an age group older than the one they are eligible for if this is approved by the Club. A player may not play in an age group they are too old for – no exceptions (ie, a 7 year old can not play in the Under 6’s team).

Games are played under the Small Sided Games (SSG) format. The full description and rules are available on our web site (See “Rules and Regulations”), but here is a quick summary:

Under 6 & 7

- 4 v 4 games with no goalkeeper played in twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time break on a field approximately 30 x 20 metres.
- 7 or 8 players to make up a team (which allows for 4 substitutes). All players to be given equal playing time where possible. Unlimited interchanges allowed.
- Goal size: approximately 2 x 1 metres.
- There is no penalty area and no offside rule applies.
- Players are discouraged from permanently standing in front of goals, either when defending or attacking.
- A size 3 ball is used.
- Players are not graded at this level. We try with best endeavours to put your child in a team with school friends and children who live nearby. If you would like your child to play in a certain team with friends, please include this when registering and we will try to accommodate to the best of our ability.

Under 8 & 9

- 7 v 7 games with a goalkeeper played in twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute minimum half time break (up to 7.5 minutes) on a field approximately 45 x 35 metres.
- 10 to 11 players to make up a team (which allows for 4 substitutes). All players to be given equal playing time where possible. Unlimited interchanges allowed.
- Goal size: approximately 3 x 2 metres.
- There is a 5m penalty area and no offside rule applies.
- Players are strongly discouraged from permanently standing in an offside position
- A size 3 ball is used.



Under 10 & 11

- 9 v 9 games with a goalkeeper played in twenty five (25) minute halves with a seven and a half (7.5) minute half time break on a field approximately 65 x 45 metres.
- 13 to 14 players to make up a team (which allows for 5 substitutes). All players to be given equal playing time where possible. Unlimited interchanges allowed.
- Goal size: approximately 5 x 2 metres.
- There is a 5m penalty area and no offside rule applies.
- Players are strongly discouraged from permanently standing in an offside position
- A size 4 ball is used.

Competitive Football: Under 12's and older

All teams from Under 12's and older play competition matches on full sized fields for points with the top 4 teams at the end of the season being eligible to play in the finals competition. All the standard FIFA rules of football apply with some very minor changes for the Under 12 age group.

X League

In 2022 the GDSFA rebranded the Premier League, the exciting new X LEAGUE. We aim to have 2 teams in the competition and we expect our lads to make some serious history as the Mighty Waratah holds all the important historical records and our lads are up for the challenge to continue the tradition.

They will play on Friday nights so we can all get around to support our teams and if you can't get to their matches, you will be able to watch the X League Match of the Round on live stream – we are certain we will be featuring a few times! Yes this will be a BIG YEAR and we are aiming for trophies at the elite level!!

Female Football



Female players are welcomed to play with the Boys (correctly known as the Mixed Competitions), in any age group. We currently have a number of female players scattered through our age groups but not enough to form an entire

team. **This year we expect to field up to 3 All Age Ladies team and after the exciting success of the Matildas, we expect to be able to start fielding young all-girl teams this year too.** So tell a friend and please encourage all the age-eligible girls to register to become a Watatah Sister!!

All Female Football competitions play in the Phoenix League, a joint competition with the Blacktown District Soccer Football Association. **The matches are played on Sundays**, being different to the Mixed Competitions which play on Saturdays.

Last season our Association is introduced an ALL GIRLS TEAM Competition for the Miniroos Under 6 and 7s, which will be played within the Granville Association and matches will be played on Saturdays.

Finding out where and when your games are on

Where is your game being held and what time do you need to be there? Please check this before the training session prior to the game - so if training is on Wednesday, check details of your Saturday game before going to Wednesday training. That way you can ask your coach if you have any issues. Coaches should also ensure they have it right before training.

On our website www.granvillewaratah.com.au there is a Menu item labelled "Draws". This is the primary source of times and locations. If you want a bookmark to this, you will need to use this link, where you can find all information and you can **download the Dribl app** for Apple and Android devices via the link. <https://dribl.com>

So, now you have kick off time and ground name. How to find the ground? On our web site - next to "Draws", you will find the "Ground Locations" button. From there you can find the field and the address. Google or Apple maps will also find the field for you (most of the time).

Remember that "Kick-off Time" (KO) is the time that the whistle is blown to start to game - you MUST be there well before kick-off! For Miniroo teams, 20 minutes is good. For all parents new to the Granville & District Soccer Football Association, this is your first season and so you should be aiming for 25-30 minutes before KO for away games to allow time to find parking and find the field. If you can't work out which field to go to, ask at the canteen. For older teams, the coach will advise you but 30 minutes to an hour before is not unusual to allow time for warming up and strategy meetings. We cannot emphasise this enough, please do not aim to arrive right at kick-off time!

BYEs - Some competitions have an odd number of teams. As a result, each week one team has nobody to play. These are known as a "Bye" and are listed as such in the draw. This will happen 2 to 3 times a season. Beware that byes can disappear - as sometimes new teams are added – and they can sometimes appear if a team withdraws, so check the draw regularly.



Wet Weather



GOLDEN RULE: ALWAYS ASSUME MATCHES ARE ON UNTIL THEY ARE OFFICIALLY CALLED OFF!!

Please Note - GAMES ARE NOT CALLED OFF JUST BECAUSE IT IS RAINING. Games are only called off to protect the players and the field or when the conditions are deemed unsafe to play by the referee. In spite of this, it is actually rare for games to be played in serious rain, but light rain is a common (and the kids normally love it).

THIS IS THE PROCEDURE: If it has been raining during the week, then we will have a message on our Social Media pages typically by 4:30pm on Friday indicating what is happening. Sometimes the entire weekend is called off, but often decisions are made by councils or clubs on the Saturday early morning.

If it has been raining on Friday night, your committee will assess our home ground by about 7:30am Saturday morning and close the field if needed. If it is raining on the Saturday but safe to play in the morning, the fields will be monitored throughout the day. Most clubs work this way. If it is decided on Saturday to close fields, then we will notify the Association who will update their Facebook page. We will also update our Facebook Page. Other clubs should follow the same procedure. In past years we have notified coaches directly by text messages.

Just because our ground, or a particular ground is closed, does not mean all games are cancelled! Do not assume, please check.

Please also note that games may be moved to another open field where possible so that games can still be played, so there may be different ground locations to attend as a result of the rain and ground closures. So be ready to play.

Game Day Procedure

We are all here for kids to have a good time and hopefully enjoy watching them play, as soccer can be a lot of fun. But to make it all work, some things need to happen:

- 1) **Well before the game – Tuesday is good** – work out where you must be and when. This allows time to ask questions at training if needed and be sure you know the location of the field.
- 2) **Before leaving home on game day**, ensure your child has their **shin guards, team socks, team shorts, boots and water bottle**. Shin Guards are an essential safety item - if your child doesn't have them they can't play! Team socks and shorts, and appropriate footwear are a requirement, but enforcement depends on the referee. They should NOT be wearing any jewellery (including watches and hair pins etc.) as these may cause injuries to themselves or other players. Referees can (should) ask for these to be removed. Long hair can be tied with elastic bands etc.
- 3) Be at the field early enough to find the field and allow the coach time to get them in their team shirts and to warm them up. Be at the Ground at least 20 Minutes before kick-off time.
- 4) In addition to a coach, each team needs a **"Team Official"**. This person is the point of contact between the other team and our spectators. The "Team Official" does not need to be the same person each week. If something happens (arguments etc. - pretty rare) the "Team Official" may be asked to report on this. The "team official" should wear the yellow vest in the shirt bags (through some of the younger teams don't yet have this).
- 5) **Electronic Team Sheets**
The GDSFA uses **Dribl**. Please visit this link and download the app or use desktop version. <https://dribl.com>
- 6) An Electronic Team Sheet must be completed - for insurance purposes. The club secretary will give each coach and manager a login password to access your team sheet from your smart phone. The Electronic Team Sheet has the names of the players pre-printed with photos and FFA numbers. For U12 and up, shirt numbers need to be entered. This is also considered a legal document for insurance purposes.
- 7) **For under 12's and older – NO E-ID CARD, NO PLAY!!** If a player is not on the Electronic Team Sheet, they cannot play. If such a player is played, your team risks losing points.
- 8) A referee will be needed. For the younger teams, this is normally one of the parents. For home games, normally the home team offers a ref. Those who come to the coaching training session will have most of what they need to referee the younger games. Remember, the referee is just a parent or other helper putting in their own time to allow your kids to have fun, and mistakes are to be expected.
- 9) Leave the coaching to the coach, including management of reserves (some coaches ask their manager to do this). There are many reasons for this. If you think they are doing something wrong or missing something, a quiet and polite conversation at some other time is the right approach.
- 10) Enjoy the game. Encourage the kids to play determined and do their best but play fair football. Congratulate them when they do great stuff - not just your own child's team, but the other team's players as well. If they make a mistake - don't worry, they are just kids - just encourage them to get up and try again.

- 11) At the end of the game, try to ensure every child is happy - regardless of the result. *“I was originally hesitant about football for my kids until I saw current club president Noel send my then 6 year old boys and their team out every week determined to win, but send them home happy regardless of the result. That is the Waratah attitude!”* – Tony (previous club secretary).
- 12) Finally - if something goes wrong, most often a misbehaving parent... please don't rise to any bait, try to deflate, de-escalate the situation. If it is one of our parents, those who know them should ask them to calm down and try to make them understand it is only a game. Please report problems to a committee member immediately. Remember we are all Waratah Ambassadors.

Help your club run smoothly

The roster and instructions for these duties will be provided to Managers via a Committee member and/or the Canteen Manager.

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

GROUND PREPARATION ROSTERS

All teams will be rostered to prepare/pack up our home ground and staff the canteen throughout the season. The teams' assistance with these duties is vital and is both an excellent way to meet people and a good way to contribute to the Club.

When the season starts, 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 washed and 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.

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.



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!

General Information

Season 2024 kicks off 6th April 2024

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.

Travelling for away games

It is a team sport so you will be required to travel to all away games. If you do not have a vehicle, please ask the assistance of the coach as other parents will typically help out.

Website

You are encouraged to visit the Club's website (www.granvillewaratah.com.au) which has all current information on the Club and the current season, including:

- 2023 Season Information Handbook
- Committee contact names and numbers
- Important dates and events throughout the football season
- Codes of Behaviour - players, parents/guardians, coaches and managers
- Various policies and procedures that you will need to be aware of
- Newsletters containing Match Reports



SOCIAL MEDIA - Facebook & Instagram & Tik Tok!

Our club's Facebook page, [Granville Waratah SFC](#), is regularly updated and very informative...and so is our Instagram page [gwsfc1901](#). All our videos are on Tik Tok! We welcome your content contributions and comments. Be sure to like share and follow.

Newsletter

Please ensure we have your correct email address as a newsletter is emailed regularly during the season as well as other important announcements, but the newsletter is subject to having sufficient volunteers to help.

Coaching and our Football Philosophy

One of the most rewarding things that you can do at Granville Waratah SFC is to coach your son or daughter's team. If this sounds like something you'd like to undertake, please try to attend every educational opportunity that you are able to. Children are placed in our care not to be simply supervised but to learn. There are a number of educational opportunities for you to attend, including:

- Attending an FFA course relevant to the age that you are coaching, either: the Grassroots Football Certificate for U5-9, Skill Training Certificate for U9-12, Game Training Certificate for U13-U17 or Senior Certificate for U17+.
- Coach education sessions provided by GDSFA and FNSW

Coaching football, in Australia and the style of play we expect from our players, has changed dramatically over the last 10+ years. So even if you have coached at a high level previously, we would encourage you to update your qualifications by attending an age-appropriate course.

Club Philosophy

At Granville Waratah SFC we aim to:

- Develop soccer football players and well-rounded young players in an environment which teaches respect, teamwork, enjoyment and reward through effort and fair play at all times;
- We are not just making our members better players but better people;
- Provide training which systematically develops in our players the key football attributes of player technique (ball skills) and football intelligence;
- Encourage players to play a passing game, maintaining positive possession of the football and not just a “long kick and chase” game;
- Provide an environment for every player which allows freedom of expression, creativity and a love of beautiful football; and
- Play football with a sporting attitude and a smile.
- Being a good club is not good enough, lets aim higher than that. Let’s aim to make our club great!

Our Victory song

We have a tradition of singing our Victory song after each victory. The teams have fun and it’s great to see awesome club and team spirit. So learn the words and join in...take a video of the singing and clapping so we can upload it on to our social media pages to share the spirit!

Sung to the tune of the United States Marines Hymn:

We are the Mighty Granville Waratah

We wear the blue and gold with pride

We fear none and conquer all

We don’t run and we don’t hide.

We play it hard, play it fast and we play all game

ONWARDS TO VICTORY!

We give it all out on the field

and leave the rest to history.

May we sing it loud and often!!

AND PLEASE REMEMBER!!...

1. THESE ARE KIDS
2. THIS A GAME
3. THE COACHES ARE VOLUNTEERS
4. THE REFEREES ARE HUMAN
5. THIS IS NOT THE WORLD CUP
6. SHOW RESPECT
7. HAVE FUN

