



NEW FAMILIES 2017/18

INFORMATION SHEET

16 Aug 2017

Training for our Teeball(U6 & U8), Zooka(U10) & Little League(U12) teams will be at Figtree High School on Wednesday's from 4:30pm. Training for our U14 & U16 teams is on the main diamond at Cringila Park (home of our senior team) on Thursday's from 5:00pm.

All new players to the club will receive a Cardinals cap, once their fees are paid - replacement caps for any existing players (or parents) cost \$20.

Uniforms tops are owned by the club & loaned to each player for the season. To reduce our tee-ball families outlay whilst they try the sport we also loan the pants for this age group.
The uniforms **MUST** be returned at season end.

Maroon socks should be worn under the baseball pants - these need to be purchased by the individual player. Although long plain white socks are an acceptable alternative (ankle socks aren't really suitable).
A maroon belt should be worn with the grey belt-looped pants (worn by older children).
If wearing an undershirt then one with maroon sleeves is preferable, given the club colours.
All of the above is aimed at providing a consistent look for our club.

All players must wear either joggers or boots with rubber moulded studs. Screw in or metal studs are not allowed.

All male players **MUST** wear an abdominal protector ('box') at practice & games. For hygiene reasons these are not supplied by the club & should be purchased by the individual player.

Mouthguards are not compulsory and risks are relatively low in comparison to other 'contact' sports. If you wish to consider for your child we have some general information available on the subject from the Dental Association.

The club supplies each team with their own kit comprising mitts, bats & helmets. So if you are new to the sport you don't need to purchase any other equipment to play.

Helmets must be worn by each batter & base runner (the next batter should also have a helmet on ready to bat).
In tee-ball the pitcher & catcher are also required to wear a helmet whilst in the field.
Whilst helmets are supplied, again for hygiene reasons we encourage children to purchase their own if possible or at least wear their own cap underneath the club helmet.

If you do wish to get some personal equipment for your child (eg. ideal Xmas present so you can practice at home with them) please check with the coach for the right sizing.

In particular there are some specific limitations on bats & it would be best to ask before wasting your money getting the wrong thing.

We also have a 2nd hand gear stall running on some training days at the entry to Figtree High.

Game Day:

All games are at Fred Finch Park at Berkeley on a Sunday & we expect the game times to be the same as last year:

Teeball(U6&U8): 9:00-10:00 (Zooka-U10): 11:00am-12:30pm Junior League: 11:00am-12:30pm

Little League(U12): 9:00-10:30 Senior League (U16): 7:00-9:00pm (Monday night at Macarthur)

Players are normally required to turn up at least 30mins prior for warm-ups, etc - although this will be discussed by each team's coach.

Teams:

We are expecting to field, at least, 4x Tee-ball(U6/U8) teams, 2x Zooka(U10) teams, 2x Little League(U12) teams, 1x Junior League(U14) team, and 1x Senior League(U16) team for this season.

Aiming to announce teams on Wed 27/9 at 5:30pm, in readiness for the season start on Sun 8/10. Uniforms will also be handed out at this time.



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Coaching:

We have a number of last year's coaches ready to go around again, although we still have a couple of positions to be filled, so if you are willing to coach or assist (or know somebody that might be) then let us know.

Ultimately the coaching philosophy across the club is to ensure all the kids have fun by participating, learning some new skills & a knowledge of the game.

Please bear in mind we don't see the game result as important for the younger age groups (there is no pointscore until U12 & above), it's more important the kids enjoy themselves & hence be more likely to return the following year.

To help this process where there are multiple teams in an age group we don't intend to choose the teams on ability alone. There are a range of factors that will be taken into account including age, friendships & coaching options - aimed at providing the best option for your child & the club.

Training sessions are not compulsory. Although obviously the more sessions your child participates in the better their skills will become.

Being reliable on game days by turning up at the nominated time is of great help to the coach (as is informing them prior if you won't be there, so we have the opportunity to juggle team numbers if necessary).

Help:

There are a multitude of jobs that you could assist us with - scoring, dug-out manager, pitch counter, training drills (feed the Zooka machine), base coach & umpiring.

Detailed knowledge of the game isn't necessarily required for all of these roles, just let us know what you'd be prepared to do - we'll provide whatever guidance/assistance you require.

During the season each of the clubs are rostered to operate the canteen each Sunday morning (~3 times per season). To achieve this on the nominated day, we allocate a 1 hr time slot to each family (excluding coaches & scorers), normally when your child's team is playing. You'll be notified prior to the day & there is always some scope to swap with others if the time doesn't suit. Normally 2-3 families per time slot. It's quite easy if everyone turns up but if you don't it creates considerable pressure on the others that are present. If we don't fulfil our obligations we are fined by the association & ultimately our fees would have to go up, so for a small bit of effort it helps everyone.

We are always looking for extra players, so if you have other friends wanting to play we'll certainly do whatever we can to accommodate them - see Nathan/Glenn.

Enjoyment:

The most important part is for you, as a family, to enjoy the baseball season.

We'll have a variety of skill levels in each team, keep encouraging them all & I'm sure we'll have a good time.

Remember, if you have any questions/problems with any of the team aspects during the season please discuss them with your coach. If that doesn't bring any success then please see one of the committee.

Enjoy your season.

Junior Committee