



**SPOTSWOOD
FOOTBALL NETBALL
CLUB
INFORMATION
BOOKLET 2024**

**ALL FOR ONE
AND ONE FOR ALL
THAT'S HOW WE
PLAY AT
SPOTSWOOD
WE ARE THE
MIGHTY FIGHTING
'WOODS!**

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Junior Administrator Welcome Message

Welcome to the Spotswood Football Netball Club (SFNC) and Season 2024. Together with the Club, coaches and team managers we have put together a brief handbook to assist parents and players understand the game of football and at the same time make some good memories in 2024.

I look forward to seeing our new players leaning skills, making new friends and having fun playing football.

SFNC is a volunteer run, community minded Club and we are always looking for people to get involved. Not just parents, but siblings, grandparents, relatives, neighbours and colleagues who are keen to help our juniors develop are welcome. Let me know if you or anyone you know is interested in helping.

You will be asked to take on a role every week. The team manager will share the workload around and communicate weekly on the volunteering task.

Roles we need to fill every week include;

1. Trainer
2. Goal umpire
3. Field umpires
4. Boundary Umpire
5. Communications
6. Water Runner
7. Umpire escort
8. Oranges
9. Property / Jumpers

Please be aware to volunteer in specific roles you need a current working with children check. Please refer to page 12 in the handbook for more information.

Communication is the key! Team App is our key format of the Club's communication. It's a great way to stay on top of everything going on at SFNC and with your team. Further information can be found in the booklet, page 14, on how to download the app and request access to your relevant age group.

If you are on Facebook or Instagram, I encourage you to follow our page **Spotswood Football Netball Club** page, as we have some awesome people keeping this updated each week.

The coaches, team managers and I are here to help and answer any questions you or the kids might have during the season, so please don't hesitate to contact us.

All for one and one for all,

Cameron Tout

Junior Administrator

Spotswood Football Netball Club

jnradmin@spotswoodfc.com.au

0421 495 494

Spotswood Football Netball Club Policies

The primary aim of the Spotswood Football Netball Club (SFNC), is to ‘develop and support our people to be the best they can be’, which is further detailed in our Mission Statement.

The SFNC is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all and strengthening the good reputation of Australian Rules Football, the WRFL football competition and the Spotswood community.

We are a family club that encourages the active involvement of all our members, parents, children, friends, supporters and sponsors through participation and support of both on-field and off-field activities and functions.

The SFNC, including its Board of Directors, Administrative Officials, Coaches, Support Staff, Volunteers, Members and Players will meet the behavioural and conduct requirements contained in the Code of Conduct.

Further to approving our Code of Conduct, the SFNC Board of Directors have developed and approved a range of additional ‘Policies’ which define and detail the Club’s expectations. The policies can be accessed on the Club’s website.

As part of the Club’s continuous strategic improvement program, the SFNC has developed an extensive suite of plans, procedures and position descriptions to meet the requirements of the WRFL and AFL Club Management Program. The SFNC is also a member of the Good Sports and Auskick Programs.

Important Dates

TBC (March)	-	Mouth Guard fitting
Friday 12 April	-	Season Launch at the Couch Pavilion
Sunday 14 April	-	Round 1 – Last weekend of School Holidays
Wednesday 8 May	-	Team Photos
Wednesday 15 May	-	Team Photos
Sunday 8 June	-	Kings Birthday Weekend - No junior football
Sunday 6 July	-	Middle of School Holidays - No junior football

Game Day Times (Times may change due to fixturing)

Under 8s and 9s	-	8:40am
Under 12	-	9:50am
Under 10	-	11:25am
Under 14 Boys	-	12:50pm
Under 15 Girls	-	12:50pm
Under 16 Boys	-	2:40pm

Pre-Season Training Times and Locations (subject to confirmation and change - check the Stack Team App for updates)

Team	Starting	Days	Time	Location
Under 8s	March	Wednesdays	4:30 to 5:30pm	To be confirmed
Under 9s	February	Wednesdays	4:30 to 5:30pm	Edwards Reserve, Truman Street, South Kingsville
Under 10s	February	Wednesdays	4:30 to 5:30pm	Edwards Reserve, Truman Street, South Kingsville
Under 12s	February	Wednesdays	5:30 to 7:00pm	Edwards Reserve, Truman Street, South Kingsville
Under 14 Boys	February	Tuesdays	4:30 to 5:30pm	Don Mclean Reserve, The Avenue, Spotswood
Under 16 Girls	February	Wednesdays	6:00 to 7:00pm	Edwards Reserve, Truman Street, South Kingsville
Under 16 Boys	February	Tuesdays	4:30 to 5:30pm	Don Mclean Reserve, The Avenue, Spotswood

Season 2024 Junior Player Fees

TEAM	WRFL FEE	PLAYER	
		MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL
Under 8	\$22	\$180	\$202.00
Under 9	\$22	\$235	\$257.00
Under 10	\$22	\$250	\$272.00
Under 12	\$22	\$270	\$292.00
Under 14	\$22	\$290	\$312.00
Under 16	\$22	\$310	\$332.00

Etiquette & Respect

- The Team Coach is your leader. They are here to help you, develop your skills, keep you safe and make sure you have fun.
- Parent helpers are what make our Club great; we love them, and we love their support and hope you kids do to.
- Umpires are as essential to our great game as the ball itself. Most Umpires at junior games are volunteer or trainee umpires. Keep that in mind, it's not the AFL or the MCG!
- Opposition players are kids just like you; having a go and getting involved and most importantly, having fun.
- You **MUST** shake hands with every opposition player at the end of every game and give 3 cheers for the other team.
- Training is where your skills come from. Don't miss these opportunities. If you can't make it (sick, camp, holidays etc.) please let your Coach or Team Manager know.
- Arriving early for the games is very important for you to get warmed up, in the team spirit and organised so the games run smoothly.
- Every family is expected to help our team at some point, this could be with oranges at half time, washing jumpers, running water, umpire escort, goal umpire, trainer (first aid) and timekeeper. It's a great way to show support for our team.

Game Day Information / Training / Memberships

- Games usually start at different times each week, please check the fixture on the team app each week to see where your team is playing,
- All players and parents need be at the ground at least 40 minutes before game time, for pre-game routines,
- Players sign the team sheet when they get their jumpers,
- Boundary Umpire, Goal Umpire, Water Person, Umpire Escort, Timekeeper, Trainer, Coach & Manager all collect relevant equipment, attire and instructions,
- WRFL field umpires (when available) introduce themselves to the team, check their boots and wish them well for the match,
- The Team Coach sets positions and instructs individuals one on one before the game about the team plan. If nothing else this is the reason you really must be at games well before,
- Green Spotswood shorts and SFNC socks are worn every Home Game
- Under 8, 9, 10 and Girls teams only wear **green shorts** for both home and away.
- White shorts must be worn for each Away Game for Under 12 and above teams,
- The Club receives a fine if players are not in correct, Jumper, Shorts or Socks;
- **Mouthguards are essential.** Players should not be on the field without a mouth guard,
- Only the game day officials can be in the coach's box during game time. We want all our Supporters around us, but leave 1 meter each side of the coach's box (or follow the fencing) for the coach, trainer and players to have their space,
- Parents are not allowed on the field during the game, even if your child is injured. Trust that the team leaders and allocated trainers will respond to any incident faster and more appropriately than anyone else,
- SFNC has a firm stance on parents and adults leading by example and we will not tolerate inappropriate language or behaviour during junior games,
- Encourage your child to attend games they may not be playing in to support the rest of the team. Sportsmanship is a huge part of their development as players,
- Your children must be collected from our change rooms after every game and from your Coach after every training session. We have a responsibility to take care of the players and would not be comfortable with them leaving our care without a responsible adult. Please keep us informed if you have made other arrangements,
- On Friday nights we will welcome all the players to the club rooms to be reunited, as it's a great social opportunity and fun, friendly, family environment,
- The clubrooms Kitchen & Bar are open every Friday night and the kids love hanging around for a hot meal and play time with their mates,
- We have Social Memberships, Junior Development Committee, Merchandise, and encourage Sponsors - so many other ways to support and be involved in our great Club.

Modified Rules for Junior Games

Spirit of Game

All junior games must be conducted with an emphasis on fun, involvement, learning of skills and good sportsmanship. Within reason, coaches must ensure that all players, irrespective of ability, are given enough time on the playing field to experience the game and achieve a sense of involvement.

Club officials, parents and spectators must demonstrate behaviours and attitudes consistent with this spirit. Clubs must promote and enforce a “zero tolerance” to behaviours and attitudes inconsistent with the spirit, especially (but not limited to) abuse or dissent with umpires, officials and players.

At the end of the game, players and officials of both teams must meet in the centre of the ground and shake each other by the hand.

Under 8, 9 and Under 10 Modified Rules

The following modified rules shall apply in all Under 8, 9 and Under 10 games. In all other respects, games shall be conducted in accordance with total WRFL by-laws.

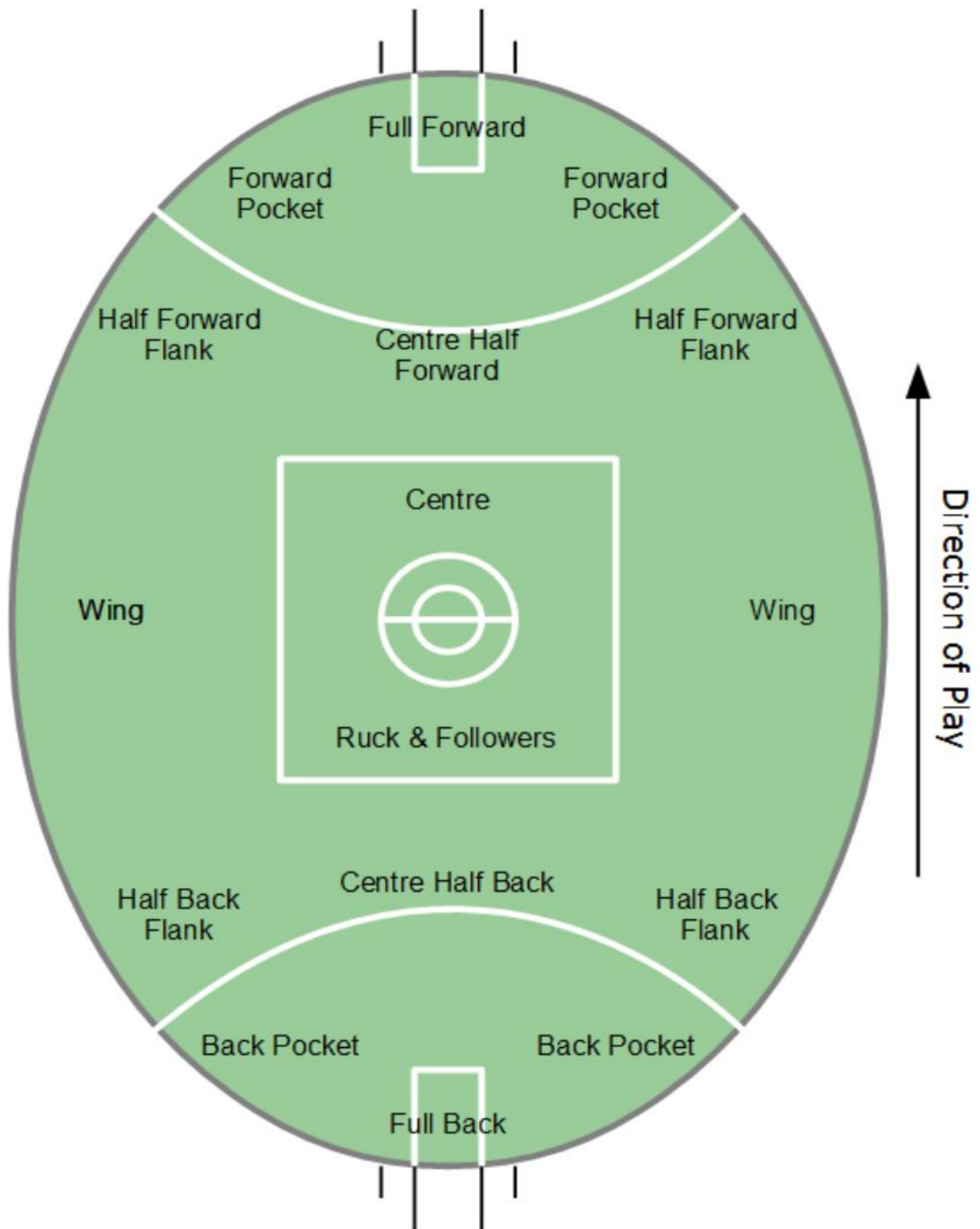
Modifications to game conditions:

- Scores will not be recorded,
- No scoreboard,
- No premiership points,
- Ladders are not to be compiled/published,
- No final series to be played,
- No WRFL awards shall be made to individual Players.

The following page contains a matrix of the junior rule modifications throughout last season. As children grow in skills and confidence, the modifications are gradually removed. This allows kids to play safe football with an emphasis on learning and growing.



Field Positions (leave this page on the front of the fridge)



Working with Children Check and Child Safety

A requirement of the coach and a parent volunteer at the Spotswood Football Netball Club, they are required to hold a current working with children check (WWC). The Western Football Netball league (WFNL) and the Australian Football League (AFL) check on all clubs from time to time to ensure that we are compliant with the WWC legislation.

Please follow the link below to access the WWC website to complete your application.

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>

Once you have submitted your WWC, please email your card number and expiry date to jnradmin@spotswoodfc.com.au Your details will be included in the Clubs WWC database.

Further, our Club wants to ensure all kids feel safe and included. The Club has developed its own Child Safety Policies and has a Child Safety Officer. We are always happy for feedback and assistance to ensure that these policies grow as the Club and its youngest members grow.

The following pages are dedicated to our young players to ensure that they know their rights, their responsibilities and what to do if they have a safety concern for themselves or someone around them.





MY RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES AS A YOUNG PERSON INVOLVED IN FOOTY

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS IN FOOTY?

As a young person, you have rights, lots of them.

They are called the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**, check them out!

Having rights makes sure that you are safe and protected doing the things you love, like playing footy!

We want all kids who participate in footy to be safe, feel safe, play safe. Here are some of those rights that relate to footy:

The right to:

- be treated fairly, no matter what your cultural background, gender or sexuality, or if you have a disability
- be safe from harm or abuse from your peers or an adult in the footy community
- have a say about things that are important to you, and be taken seriously
- have privacy when you are getting changed or showering at events or trips, or just after a game
- choose if you want to have your photo taken or have it shared on the internet
- have your personal information protected and not shared without you and your family knowing.

DEFINITIONS

A Child: someone involved in footy who is 12 years or younger – usually a player but may also be a sibling of a player or child of an adult at the club.

A Young Person: someone involved in footy who is between the ages of 13 and 18 years old – usually a player but could also be an umpire or in another role at the club, or a sibling or child of a player.

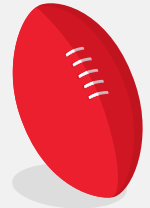
Adult: someone involved in footy who is over the age of 18 – this could be a coach, manager, umpire, club official, AFL staff member, volunteer, and/or a parent.





WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOTY?

With rights, come responsibilities, but you have probably heard that before. Like school, or work, you are responsible for your own behaviour and how it impacts others around you. When it comes to behaviour in footy, remember to:



PLAY FAIR Show respect to everyone around you – peers, coaches and umpires.

PLAY SAFE Prioritise safety, yours, and the people around you, always.

PLAY KIND Be inclusive, patient, and welcoming, especially to newcomers.

Pretty straight forward huh!?

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I DO?

If we all just followed the rules, everyone would be ok, right? Of course! But life just isn't that simple. Young people often have a bit going on for them, and it is easy to forget the rules some times. Here are three easy steps to keep you in check.

1 CHECK YOURSELF

Check your own behaviour is in line with your responsibilities and that you are not the reason why someone else may be feeling unsafe, uncomfortable, unwelcome, or excluded.

2 CHECK YOUR MATE

Check in on your teammates and your other footy friends, make sure they are doing ok and offer to help where you can.

3 SAY SOMETHING

If you have concerns about your safety or the safety of another child or young person, or have seen or heard something that just doesn't feel right, it is important you say something:



Speak to a parent, carer, family member or trusted adult like a coach, team manager, umpire, official or club representative.



Write down your concerns and pass them onto your club or association via email or letter.



Use this QR code to raise a concern with the AFL.



For any safeguarding queries email childsafety@afl.com.au
Contact Kids helpline on 1800 55 1800 (it's free)
or www.kidshelpline.com.au

As always if anyone is in immediate danger contact the police on **000**

Remember, we want all children and young people in footy to be safe, feel safe, play safe.

IMPORTANT – If your behaviour is impacting on another person's safety and wellbeing, and it has been discussed with you and it continues, or if it is really serious, there may be consequences. This can include warnings from a coach right down to notifying the police.

Stack Team App - Smartphone Communication App



STACK TEAM APP



SPOTSWOOD FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

DOWNLOAD TEAM APP!

Spotswood Football Netball Club will continue to use Team App as an effective means of communication.

Team App is available for download for all smart phones and tablets and is FREE!

STEP ONE

Download Team App onto your Smartphone from the App Store and register to become a Member.

STEP TWO

Find your Team / Club
Search for Spotswood FNC - for our Green and Gold shield.

STEP THREE

On the top of the SFNC Home Screen, tap the settings wheel.

STEP FOUR

Find your team in "Access Groups" eg. Under 14's and request to join. You can join multiple teams / groups.

Player Registration can now be accessed by Team App. Look for the Player Registration Button, top left.



The Club will keep you up-to-date with your favourite team's news, events, schedules and much more.



HOW TO REGISTER FOR FOOTY AS A NEW PARTICIPANT

1

FIND YOUR CLUB

Your club may send you a direct link to the 2023 registration form or have the link available on Social channels / website.

Otherwise, you can search for the club you wish to register for at www.playhq.com

2

CREATE AN ACCOUNT

If you do not have an account, click on the **CREATE AN ACCOUNT** button & fill out your personal details.

3

FILL OUT THE REGO FORM

You will have the option to register yourself or add dependents (linked to your account).

Choose your Role (Player / Team Manager or Volunteer) and answer all the required Questions.

4

PAY & SUBMIT REGISTRATION

You will see a summary of the registration fees & If your club takes payments through the registration form, you will see the option to pay securely via Credit Card.

To Finalise, Click **SUBMIT REGISTRATION**.

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT 1800 PLAY AFL OR CLUBHELP@AFL.COM.AU

HOW TO REGISTER FOR FOOTY AS A RETURNING PARTICIPANT

Remember to use the same First Name, Last Name, DOB & Email from last year's registration

1

FIND YOUR CLUB

Your club may send you a direct link to the 2022 registration form or have the link available on Social channels / website.

Otherwise, you can search for the club you wish to register for at www.playhq.com.

2

FILL OUT THE REGO FORM

You can Login or Create a New PlayHQ Account before choosing your Role and fill out your personal + contact details.

3

CLAIM YOUR PROFILE

PlayHQ may identify that you have played before & prompt you to CLAIM PROFILE. This will ensure your playing history is updated.

If no profile appears for you to Claim or if you need any assistance, you will see a link to contact the support team.

4

PAY & SUBMIT REGISTRATION

You will see a summary of the registration fees & If your club takes payments through the registration form, you will see the option to pay securely via Credit Card.

To Finalise, Click **SUBMIT REGISTRATION**.

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT 1800 PLAY AFL OR CLUBHELP@AFL.COM.AU

Spotswood Football Netball Club Team Song

(To the tune of the Hawthorn FC song)

We're a mighty team at Spotswood,
We're the mighty fighting Woods,

We love our club, and we play to win,
Riding the bumps with a grin, at Spotswood,

Come what may you'll see us fighting,
Teamwork is the thing that counts,

All for one and one for all,
That's how we play at Spotswood,

We are the mighty fighting Woods!





Spotswood Rules!



ACTIVE
COACH
FUN
MARK
SIREN
SPOTSWOOD
TRAINING

BEHIND
FOOTBALL
GOAL
OVAL
SKILLS
TACKLE
UMPIRE

BOUNCE
FRIENDS
KICKING
RESPECT
SPORT
TEAM

Do you know all the
AFL Mascots?



Colour in a Spotswood
Football Club Jumper
with your favourite
number on the back!