



**BLACKTOWN ST. PATRICK'S SOCCER CLUB INC.**

ABN 30 299 621 612

## **2023 INFORMATION GUIDE**

for

**Players, Parents, Guardians, Team Officials and  
Spectators**

## ABOUT ST PATS

Welcome to St Patrick's Soccer Club (St Pats). For over 47 years St Pats have been offering our members a fantastic environment to play this great sport.

St Pats fields teams for boys, girls, men and ladies from U5 to All Age. St Pats is run by a small, dedicated group of volunteers who give up their time freely so you and your family can have the opportunity to enjoy football. Please read the information in this guide and let us know if you have any questions. Once again, we welcome you to the St Pats family and sincerely hope that you have a great season.

## YOUR 2023 ST PATS COMMITTEE

**President:** Keith Weatherby (0416 183 951)

**Secretary:** Silvana Martignago (0422 747 235)

**Vice President:** George Quinn (0415 592 746)

**Registrar:** Gemma Borg (0402 938 034)

**Competition Secretary:** Christine McDonald (0412 837 114)

**Treasurer:** Chris Ellam

**Head Coach:** Keith Weatherby (0416 183 951)

**Canteen Manager:** Vacant

**Grounds Manager:** Bill Borg

**Fundraising Manager:** George Quinn

**Social Media Manager:** Christine McDonald

**General:** Matt Adamcewicz  
Olivia Adamcewicz  
Luke Borg  
Mario Gonzalez  
David Kinsella  
Nicholle Marks  
Scott Nash

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

**Member Protection Officer:** Silvana Martignago (0422 747 235)

**Wet Weather Information Line:** 9839-6575

## REGISTRATION

Registering to play for St Pats can be completed online at <https://registration.dribl.com/club/285> or by attending one of our registration days. Step by step instructions on how to register are available on our website, alternatively call Gemma or Silvana for help.

After you have registered online, you will receive an email with all the player information. Any new players to St Pats will have to attend one of our registration days to provide proof of identification via a current driver's licence, birth certificate or current passport. Our registration days are as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 14/1/23	10.00am to 2.00pm	Bert Saunders Reserve, Kiata Cres, Doonside
Saturday 21/1/23	10.00am to 2.00pm	Bert Saunders Reserve, Kiata Cres, Doonside
Saturday 4/2/23	10.00am to 2.00pm	Bert Saunders Reserve, Kiata Cres, Doonside

Registration fees include insurance as well as fees payable to BDSFA, FNSW and the FFA and the match fees payable to the referee/s. Some other clubs may not charge match fees upfront and charge players every week and often players end up paying out more during the year, at St Pats we only charge one upfront fee for the entire season.

The table below outlines the base registration fee payable for all players and fees applicable to returning St Pats players. A further discount is available for players from 4.5 years to 18 years of age by applying for an Active Kids voucher.

Our 2023 fees are:

AGE GROUP	REGISTRATION FEE*
U5	85
U6 & U7	95
U8	135
U9	145
U10 & U11	160
U12	185
U13 & U14	195
U15 & U16	205
U17 & U18	245
Senior Players 19yrs+	435

*\*assumes redemption of Active Kids Voucher for school age students to 18 years*

## SAVE \$100 OFF YOUR REGISTRATION FEE

In 2023 all eligible players can apply for an Active Kids voucher valued at \$100. The NSW government Active Kids program will contribute \$100 towards every school child aged between 4.5 and 18 years. This is a fantastic initiative designed to get more juniors playing this great sport. Apply for the voucher here <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-active-kids-voucher>

A family discount is available from St Pats to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and any consecutive children from the same family.

**All registration fees must be paid in full by 3/3/23. Players will not be approved to play unless all registration fees are paid in full.**

## REFUNDS

Please note that there is an administration fee of \$40 should a player choose to cancel or transfer your registration. Refund requests must be made in writing to the secretary at [secretary.stpatsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.stpatsoccer@gmail.com), please note that no refunds will be issued after Round 1.

## GRADING

All players in the following age groups should attend the following grading sessions:

AGE GROUP	TIMES	DAYS
U5 to U8	5.30 to 6.30 pm	Wednesdays 18th & 25th of January
U9/10/11	5.30 to 6.30 pm	Tuesdays and Thursdays 17th, 19th & 24th January
U12/13/14	6.30 to 7.30 pm	Tuesdays and Thursdays 17th, 19th & 24th January
U15/16/17	7.30 to 8.30 pm	Tuesdays and Thursdays 17th, 19th & 24th January
All Age & O35	Advised by coach	Advised by coach

Grading is completed during training and trial games. Grading is done by coaches in conjunction with the St Pat's Grading Committee. The purpose of grading is to ensure that players are allocated to the appropriate division. This will ensure that players get the most of their football season at St Pats.

Once each team has been graded, they are nominated into a division appropriate to their ability. The BDSFA will then group teams from across the district into their competition i.e. division 1 has its' own competition, division 2 has its' own, etc.

Players must be registered in order to be graded.

## TRAINING

For the 2023 season, training will commence in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of February

U5 to U8 teams will start training on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February from 5.30 pm

U9 to U11 teams will start training on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February from 5.30 pm

U12 – U17 will start training on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February from 6.00 pm

All Age will be as advised by the coach.

Our U5 – U8 teams generally train one night per week. Teams from U9 and above generally train two nights per week. The coach will nominate permanent training days and times in consultation with parents and players. Remember the coach is the one volunteering his/her time for the team so please help out where you can.

Parents, please remember to stay with your child during training. Training may finish early due to the weather or your child may be injured during training. For these reasons, it is important that a child’s parent and/or guardian be available at all times.

Soccer boots and shin pads must be worn at all times during training and games.

## COVIDSAFE

St Pats is a COVIDSAFE Club and will take all reasonable steps to ensure your safety - but we need your help:

- Do not attend a game or training as a player, official, or spectator if you are unwell or have been in contact with anyone that has tested positive
- Practice good hygiene at all times; and
- All participants are required to follow any directives issued by NSW Health.

## MINI ROOS

Mini Roos are non-competitive age groups; U5-U11, these games are played on Saturdays, with the exception of all girls’ teams which are played on Sundays. Please find below some information for Mini Roo games, full rules for Mini Roo teams can be found on the BDSFA website at [www.bdsfa.com](http://www.bdsfa.com)

<b>U5 &amp; 6's</b>	<b>U7's</b>	<b>U8's</b>
4 players per team – no keeper	4 players per team - no keeper	7 players per team incl keeper
Maximum of 3 substitutes	Maximum of 3 substitutes	Maximum of 3 substitutes
2*15-minute halves	2 *20-minute halves	2 *20-minute halves
Ball size 3	Ball size 3	Ball size 3
<b>U9's</b>	<b>U10 &amp; 11's</b>	
9 players per team incl keeper	9 players per team incl keeper	
Maximum of 3 substitutes	Maximum of 3 substitutes	
2 *20-minute halves	2 *25-minute halves	
Ball size 3	Ball size 4	

## GAMES

Mini Roo teams from U5 – U11 play on Saturdays, generally in the morning and are non-competitive, no scores are published.

Competition teams from U12 – U17's as well as the Premier League Squad consisting of PL21's, Reserve Grade and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade also play on Saturdays. O35 men and O30 women play on Friday nights. All Age including female football is played on Sundays.

Prior to the season starting, trial games are played against clubs outside the Blacktown district. These trial games generally start in March and information regarding these games are provided in the St Pats newsletter which is issued weekly. Please ensure that you check the weekly newsletter, Facebook or our website for up-to-date information on trial games.

The season calendar can be found at the end of this guide. Please familiarise yourself with this calendar as it indicates when each round is due to be played as well as the weekends that are currently designated as catch-up rounds.

If weekends are washed out, catch-up games may be played mid-week. These catch-up rounds are determined by our governing body.

## **THE BDSFA**

St Pat's and many other local clubs are affiliated with the Blacktown and District Soccer Football Association (BDSFA) – which is, in turn, affiliated with Football NSW along with other NSW Football Associations.

The BDSFA administers the basic laws of the game as set by FIFA and sets some "local" rules for our competition. The BDSFA is responsible for the competition fixtures i.e. game times and locations, they are also responsible for determining the policies and codes of conduct that all players and team officials must abide by.

A copy of the competition regulations, along with policy information can be found on the BDSFA website at [www.bdsfa.com](http://www.bdsfa.com).

## **COMMUNICATION**

Communication is critical to the success of your team. St Pats communicates via Facebook, the St Pats website and weekly newsletters. We encourage you to like us on Facebook so you can get immediate updates about changes to training, games and ground closures.

Each week the Club will provide players with a newsletter via email. This is a vital communication tool. The newsletter will contain the weekly draw as well as match reports and any upcoming events that you need to be aware of.

The St Pat's website is also an excellent source of information, it contains many contact numbers that you may require as well as newsletters which includes the draw. Our website address is [www.stpatsoccer.com](http://www.stpatsoccer.com).

The BDSFA website contains the draw information for all clubs in the Blacktown district as well as the points table showing your teams results. The BDSFA website is [www.bdsfa.com](http://www.bdsfa.com).

## **GAME INFORMATION**

It is each players responsibility to understand where and when they are playing each week. This information is found in the weekly newsletter which is distributed to all players via email. Game information can also be found on the BDSFA website.

Game times and locations can change up until the day before of the game, particularly if some grounds close. All players should confirm game time and location the day before their game.

A grounds directory including the address of each ground in the Blacktown district is included at the end of this guide.

## **WET WEATHER**

All grounds throughout the Blacktown District are under the control of Blacktown Council. The council has the responsibility of assessing whether grounds are safe to use.

Blacktown Council has a wet weather number (9839-6575) which has a recorded message on it stating if the grounds are open or closed. If the grounds have been closed by Blacktown Council, under no circumstances are any teams allowed to train/play.

Sometimes there is wet weather when the grounds are open, that is, it has started to rain after the council has checked the grounds. In these cases, it is up to the St Pat's Committee to determine whether it is safe to use our grounds.

The Committee will make a decision when training is due to start as to whether the grounds will be open. This also applies to games on the weekends, if the grounds in the Blacktown District are closed, then all games will be postponed. If the grounds are open and it is raining, then it is up to the home club that uses the grounds to determine if the fields are safe.

If St Pats Committee closes grounds, every attempt will be made to contact all coaches/managers to advise them that the grounds have been closed.

If you are at an away game, it is the responsibility of the club that uses those grounds to determine whether it is safe to play. Usually your coach/manager will contact you to advise you that the game is cancelled, if you have not heard from your coach/manager, you must attend the game, even if it is raining.

Remember that if not enough players turn up to play, St Pats will be forced to forfeit a game and it will be the responsibility of the team to pay a substantial fine issued by the BDSFA.

All updates are posted on Facebook and as such it is important that you like our Facebook page.

## **TEAM UNIFORMS**

All players must wear boots and shin pads when training and playing games.

The uniform socks and shorts must be purchased from St Pats and worn in all games when representing St Pats.

During training players are to wear comfortable clothing including boots and shin pads.

Playing jerseys are provided to the team manager and are owned by St Pats (unless your team has opted to purchase their own jerseys). All team jerseys are the responsibility of the coach and manager and are to be returned to the club at the end of the season.

Any jersey owned by the Club that is lost must be replaced by the individual that lost it.

## **COACHING/MANAGING A TEAM**

All Grass Roots soccer clubs are run by volunteers most of whom are mums and dads that are willing to give up their time selflessly to help their local club.

At St Pats we are committed to providing you with as much assistance as possible to help you coach or manage a team, coaching courses are run by the BDSFA and St Pats will reimburse coaches for all accredited courses on successful completion.

Please note that all coaches and managers are required to complete a Working With Children declaration and supply their WWC number to St Pats. Coaches and Managers must also register [online](https://registration.dribl.com/sign-up/16) at <https://registration.dribl.com/sign-up/16>

If you are interested in coaching, please talk to any one of our Committee members.

## **INSURANCE**

Part of the registration fee covers insurance for players whilst at approved training and /or games.

The insurance provides cover for registered players, match officials and club officials who suffer an injury during official training, games, sanctioned tournaments and events. The main benefits claimable are non-Medicare Medical benefits including ambulance, physiotherapy, chiropractic, dental, private hospital accommodation, loss of income and student assistance.

Terms and Conditions do apply - a summary of the Personal Injury Insurance coverage is available on the BDSFA website.

Senior teams can increase their level of income protection by application – this must be applied for by the entire team.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

St Pat's takes the matter of Child Protection very seriously. We are committed to ensuring the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children is maintained at all times during their participation in activities run by St Pat's.

Children are defined as anyone under the age of 18 – this includes St Pat's and visiting players, coaches, managers and referees.

Remember it is everyone's responsibility to ensure our children are protected. If you see a child being treated improperly, please report it to a member of the St Pat's Committee immediately. If it



happens at an away game, find a member of the home team's committee and report it to them immediately.

Anyone associated with coaching or managing a team that has players under the age of 18 must obtain a Working with Children Check which needs to be recorded when registering as a coach, manager or assistant coach.

## **PARENTS/PLAYERS' GAME DAY CONTRIBUTION**

St Pats Soccer Club is run on a volunteer basis, everyone that helps, including the committee, do so because we want to help our kids and we all love football. St Pats cannot run effectively without the support of players and parents.

**Every** St Pats team, both juniors and seniors, must contribute the following:

1. Field set up - arrive at home ground at least 45 minutes before all home games when the team is first game scheduled. Field set up includes nets, corner flags and chairs;
2. Pack up all equipment from the field after all home games when no following game is scheduled;
3. Assist in the canteen and BBQ for all your home games during the season with a minimum of 4 persons over the age of 16.

Your contribution is essential to the success of St Pats, it is not a lot of time and it makes a huge difference to those on the Committee who also wish to watch our kids play!

It is not very hard at all and you may find that you will enjoy contributing to the club and may even make some friends along the way.

## **USE OF IMAGES**

When registering to play for St Pats, players consent to the use of their images taken during games and training for promotional purposes. Players can withdraw their consent by submitting their request in writing to the Club Secretary.

## **CODES OF CONDUCT**

The Codes of Conduct ensure that all our members develop good sporting behaviours and have a safe and an enjoyable experience of sport, regardless of age, gender, culture background or ability.

**It is important that all players, parents, guardians and team officials read and understand these codes.**

By registering at St Pats, each player, parent/guardian and team official agrees to adhere to these Codes of Conduct. Failure to adhere to these Codes of Conduct will result in disciplinary action by the St Pat's Committee and/or the Blacktown District Soccer Football Association (BDSFA).

Disciplinary action may be in the form of either temporary and/or permanent suspension from all football activities within Australia.

All senior players at St Pats agree to a Players Pledge in which players commit to conduct 2 hours of community service for the Club for every week of suspension they have been issued with. This service can be in the form of assisting junior coaches with player drills, field set up or assistance in the canteen or BBQ. Players issued with red cards cannot resume playing until their community service with the Club has been served.

### **PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

- I will always play by the rules of the game;
- I will never argue with an official. If I disagree with a decision, I will inform the captain, coach or manager during a break or after the game;
- I will not use any Electronic Media such as Facebook, Twitter or email to discuss, ridicule, or abuse any player or member, or person associated with a member, of the BDSFA;
- I will control my temper. I understand that verbal abuse of officials and other players is not acceptable;
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background;
- I will work equally hard for myself and/or my team;
- I will be a good sport and applaud all good plays whether they are made by my team or the opposition;
- I will treat all players in my sport as I like to be treated. I will not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor;
- I understand that deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable;
- I will cooperate with my coach, team manager, team members and opponents at all times;
- I will display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat;
- I will not arrive at the field intoxicated or drink alcohol at matches;
- I will thank the opposition and officials at the end of the game.

### **PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

- I won't pressure my child in any way – I know that this is their game not mine;
- I will not use bad language, nor will I harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators;
- I will encourage my child to play within the rules and respect officials' and coaches' decisions;
- I will allow the coach to coach the game and I will only give the team encouragement and not instruction from the sideline;

- I will not use any Electronic Media such as Facebook, Twitter or email, to discuss, ridicule, or abuse any player or member, or person associated with a member, of the BDSFA;
- I will teach my child to respect the efforts of their opponents;
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background.
- I will remember that children learn best by example so I will applaud good plays/performances by both my child's team and their opponents;
- I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort;
- I will focus on my child's and their team's efforts and performance;
- I will thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time to conduct the event for my child;
- I will volunteer my services and help when asked by a coach or official;
- I won't criticise or ridicule my child's performance after the game – I realise that learning and having fun is more important than a good win;
- I will not arrive at the field intoxicated or drink alcohol at matches.

### **COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background;
- I will display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport including opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. I will encourage my players to do the same;
- I will not use any Electronic Media such as Facebook, Twitter or email to discuss, ridicule, or abuse any player or member, or person associated with a member, of the BDSFA;
- I will operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same;
- I will do my best to give players appropriate amounts of game time;
- I understand that players and officials are representing St Pats - I agree to comply with the policies and direction of the St Pats Committee at all times;
- I will never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning;
- I will be reasonable in my demands on player's time, energy and enthusiasm;
- I will remember that players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun;

- I will ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities;
- I will not use bad language nor will I harass players, officials, spectators or other coaches;
- I will ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players;
- I will show concern and caution toward sick and injured players and follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition;
- I will obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young players;
- I will not arrive at the fields intoxicated or drink alcohol at matches;
- I will not allow the unlawful supply of alcohol at training, games or club facilities.

#### **OFFICIAL'S CODE OF CONDUCT – This includes managers, ground officials and committee members**

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background;
- I will display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport including opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. I will encourage my players to do the same;
- I will not use any Electronic Media such as Facebook, Titter or email to discuss, ridicule, or abuse any player or member, or person associated with a member, of the BDSFA;
- I understand that players and officials are representing St Pat's and I agree to comply with the policies and direction of the St Pat's Committee at all times;
- I will operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same;
- I will place the safety and welfare of players above all else;
- I will show concern and caution towards sick and injured players;
- I will give all players a "fair go" regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion;
- I will be impartial, consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions;
- I will accept responsibility for my actions and decisions;
- I will condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for the individuality of players;
- I will avoid any situations which may lead to or be as a conflict of interest;

- I will be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance and ensure my comments are positive and supportive;
- I will be a good sport as I understand that actions speak louder than words;
- I will always respect, remain loyal to and support other officials;
- I will keep up to date with the latest 'Laws of the Game', trends and principles of their application;
- I will emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors;
- I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards players or other officials;
- I will refrain from any form of harassment towards players or other officials;

## **PLAYERS PLEDGE**

In support of the codes of conduct, each player is asked to pledge their commitment to this code as part of the terms and conditions of registration. This pledge includes an agreement by every senior player (U16 and older) to contribute 2 hours of assistance to St Pats for each week of suspension handed down by the BDSFA. This assistance can be in the form of field set up or canteen assistance. Players cannot resume playing until this assistance has been served.

Included in this pledge is a commitment by players/teams to pay any and all fines incurred by the team. This applies to all competition teams.

## **TEAM FINES**

Please note that certain offences attract fines such as forfeiting a game or missing ground official on a team sheet. Please note that all competition teams are responsible for paying any fines incurred by them.

Please refer to the BDSFA website for information on suspensions and fines.

## **SUMMARY**

Once again, we would like to welcome you to St Pats, if you have any questions about any of the information covered in this guide, please see one of our friendly committee members as we are all here to help.

## 2023 SEASON CALENDAR

Possible PL Round	17-19 March	Premier League Only
Possible PL Round	24-26 March	Premier League Only
Round 1	31 March – 2 April	
NO PLAY	7-9 April	Easter Long Weekend
Round 2	14-16 April	
Round 3	21-23 April	
Round 4	28-30 April	
Round 5	5-7 May	
Round 6	12-14 May	
Round 7	19-21 May	
Round 8	26-28 May	
Round 9	2-4 June	
Catch up Weekend	9-12 June	June Long Weekend
Round 10	16-18 June	
Round 11	23-25 June	
Round 12	30 June-2 July	
Round 13	7-9 July	
Round 14	14-16 July	
Round 15	21-23 July	
Round 16	28-30 July	
Round 17	4-6 August	
Round 18	11-13 August	
Semi Finals	18-20 August	
Major Semi Finals	25-27 August	
Grand Final week 1	1-3 September	
Grand Final AAM only	8-10 September	

## 2023 GROUNDS DIRECTORY

CLUB	PARK	ADDRESS	SUBURB
BDSFA/Spartans	Blacktown Football Park	Eastern Road	Rooty Hill
Blacktown Workers	Laybutt Reserve	Walters Road	Arndell Park
Doonside Hawks	Glendenning Reserve	Golding Drive	Glendenning
Eastern Creek	Moreau reserve	Church Road	Eastern Creek
Glenwood Redbacks	Glenwood Reserve	Forman Ave	Glenwood
Kings Langley	Lynwood Park	Stephen St	Blacktown
Lourdes	Best Rd Reserve	Best Rd	Seven Hills
Marayong Sports	Harvey Park	Benalla Crs	Marayong
Marsden Park FC	Elara Reserve	Elara Boulevard	Marsden Park
Minchinbury Jets	Minchinbury Reserve	Minchinbury Drive	Minchinbury
Newbury Bulls	Connor Greasby Park	Perfection Ave	Stanhope Gardens
Oakville	Colbee Park	Old Hawkesbury Rd	McGraths Hill
Parklea	Morgan Power Reserve	Vardys Rd	Kings Langley
Plumpton/Oakhurst	Hanna Reserve	Hyatts Rd	Oakhurst
Polonia Rams	Heber Park	Jersey Rd	Plumpton
Premiers Spurs	Marayong Oval	Davis Rd	Marayong
Prospect United	William Lawson Reserve	Myrtle St	Prospect
Quakers Hill Juniors	Quakers Hill Park	Walker St	Quakers Hill
Quakers Hill Tigers	Patterson Reserve	Torbert Ave	Quakers Hill
Riverstone/Schofields	Schofields Park	Station St	Schofields
Rooty Hill R.S.L	Angus Park	Beames Ave	Rooty Hill
Rooty Hill R.S.L.	Cor Brouwer Reserve	Cawarra St	Eastern Creek
Ropes Crossing Strikers	Ropes Crossing Reserve	Guild Place	Ropes Crossing
St Patricks	Bert Saunders Reserve	Kiata Crescent	Doonside
The Ponds FC	Jonas Bradley Oval	The Ponds Boulevard	The Ponds
The Ponds FC	CSI Park	South St	Schofields
Town Rangers	Popendetta Park	Copeland Road	Emerton

