

BACCHUS MARSH SOCCER CLUB



MEMBERS HANDBOOK 2026





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Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club Inc.

Email **bacchusmarshscorpions@hotmail.com.au**
Website **bacchusmarshsoccer.org.au**
Facebook **Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club—Scorpions**
Instagram **bmsoccerscorpion**

BMSC Committee

POSITION	NAME
President	Scott Williams
Secretary	Leanne Smith
Treasurer	Liam Kiely
Registration Officer	Cliff Tufnell
Football Victoria Advisory Board Member	Kyle Stewart
Committee Member	Elizabeth Winter
Committee Member	Justin Carrol
Committee Member	Aaron Fraser
Committee Member	Cliff Tuffnell

League Football Victoria Greater Ballarat

Football Victoria <https://www.footballvictoria.com.au/home>

Football Australia www.footballaustralia.com.au

Registration Website <http://www.myfootballclub.com.au/>





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ABOUT OUR CLUB

The key aims and philosophy of the Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club are to:

- Make participation in soccer an enjoyable experience.
- Promote and uphold the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play within the club.
- Promote and uphold the ideals entailing respect for one's teammates, the opposition team, match officials and fellow club members.
- Encourage healthy food choices.
- Have a family friendly environment where our players can grow and improve on their skills as soccer players.

Our Core Values

Strive for excellence – work equally hard for yourself and your team.

Co-Operation and unity of players, staff, family and community – we will all work together for the benefit of the club.

Opportunity for growth and excellence in football.

Respect – we will treat others the way we expect to be treated.

Pride in our team, our club and ourselves.

Integrity and Fair Play

Openness – we will engage and communicate transparently with all players, staff and parents.

Nurturing and Positive Coaching – we will provide an environment for enjoyment and development in football.

Sportsmanship.

Club History

- 2008** Our club was formed, and we fielded 3 teams in the Football Federation Victoria leagues, plus ran a small-sided games program for younger players.
- 2009** 6 teams registered with Football Federation Victoria league - U16 Male, U16 Female, U14 mixed, U13 mixed, U12 mixed, SSG U10 - plus small sided games program for younger players.
- 2011** We became affiliated with the Ballarat District Soccer Association. (BDSA) Our goal is to enter senior teams in the competitions as well as women's teams of all ages.
- 2012** In our second year with the BDSA we entered several teams, including U9's, U11's, U13's, and U17's. Our U17's made it to the finals completion.
- 2013** Our club continued to grow in 2013, with 7 teams in total, including a men's senior team. Our U17s and U15s-Div 2, were both successful in reaching the preliminary finals.
The upgrade of Mason's Lane continued with the extension of the clubrooms to now include showering facilities & change rooms. This upgrade will continue with Stage2 commencing in 2014. During 2013 we were fortunate to secure Food Works Bacchus Marsh as our major sponsor for 3 years.

- 2014 & 2015** Our club continued to grow, and with successes on and off the field.
- 2016** With further growth in our club, we recognised the need for better inter club communication, and with a few small changes and growth in committee members we strive for continuing improvement.
- 2017** We are a club looking to make forward changes to an ever-expanding club. We are welcoming lots of new members, players and families. With the success of Soccer Sevens, we see soccer as a very popular sport for all of our players from our Minirooms right through to our seniors teams.
- 2018** The club's 10th Year anniversary! The club continues to grow, and we are seeing a lot of talented players at our club. Continual improvement is seeing the club have success on and off the field.
- 2019** The club continues to grow and sees the most teams ever fielded by the club in the BDSA in a season.
- 2020** Like so many things, COVID interrupted what looked to be a promising year of growth within our club with only two games played for the season.
- 2021** COVID again interrupted this season with only half a dozen games being played before lockdowns impacted sport throughout the state.
- 2022** Was a difficult year post COVID with both volunteer and participation numbers across all sports being low.
The club secured their first title win with the Bacchus Marsh Scorpions 2022 U12's taking out the club's first ever grand final win! On a horrible, wet, cold Ballarat day, the team scored with two minutes to go and saving the game from going to penalties.
- 2023** With further growth and interest in the game, we had unprecedented levels of enquiry, only stemmed by a lack of available volunteer coaches. Following on from a successful 2022, our U11 squad secured 15 wins out 17 and our U12's and U13's went deep into the final's series.
- 2024** Another season of growth for the club with our Non-Competitive Minirooms expanding by 3 teams and solid interest in our Saturday Morning Minirooms Program. Our Under 11s Blue squad improved on the year before by securing 17 out of 17 wins and we once again had representation in the Competitive Juniors Final series with our Under 14s Blue squad making it to the Preliminary Final. Club stalwart, Kyle Stewart, was recognised for his efforts throughout the year by being awarded the Scott Anwyl Medal (BDSA Division 1 Best & Fairest).
- 2025** This season was a record year for the club with our numbers expanding to levels never reached before in the club's history. Including, for the first time in several years, the inclusion of all girl teams. The club also had its most successful years to date with 4 of our teams, Under 12s Blue, Under 16s, Seniors & Reserves making it into the finals. Our Under 16s going on to take the Grand Final flag, 2-0, in a tightly fought match against Creswick Cougars. We also had the pleasure of seeing one of our Under 12 Blue players, Ashton Jovic, awarded the Golden Boot award for most goals (40) scored throughout the season.
- 2026** Another exciting year ahead with a record amount of interest to date. We look forward to seeing as many players as possible on the field this season. GO SCORPES!

VOLUNTEERS

The Importance of Volunteers

Volunteers in our club are very important. Without volunteers our club would not exist. A volunteer can perform many different roles and provide our club with varying goods and services. Our committee are ALL volunteers, as are our coaches, team managers etc. No one is financially compensated for their duties. These individuals are also parents, have full and part-time jobs and carry a variety of family responsibilities.

We welcome any person who would be willing to help, even if it is only for 5 or 10 minutes. Every little bit helps to make it a better club for all the players. We put an emphasis on being a family friendly club and we encourage input from family members to assist in growing and achieving our club goals together.

We need your help!

If you would like to help in any way throughout the season, please don't hesitate to offer your assistance. From a small gesture of giving the volunteers setting up a pitch a hand, to volunteering to be a team manager, offering your time to coach, through to offering your time and energy by being on the committee.

Parent and Family Participation

BMSC relies on parent participation, which can vary from helping a coach to field duties. If you can spare a small amount of time, please don't hesitate to ask your child's coach, team managers or one of the committee members where your time could be best spent.

It is vital for parents to participate; volunteers run the entire club. Parents can be expecting to be rostered on for various team jobs throughout the season. This involvement will make a BIG difference to the way YOUR Soccer Club is run and managed.

Rostered duties may include;

- Providing oranges on game day for players at the half time break
- Helping set up and pack up equipment on soccer training nights e.g., training cones and poles, the pumping up of training balls.
- Helping set up home game day equipment e.g., soccer nets, flags.

Other duties that require volunteer participation

- Coaches - Anyone that has a love of soccer and a willingness to teach.
- Assistant Coach - A person to help the coach in player development.
- Team Manager- To manage communications between coaches, players and families.

If you have other skills, you think may benefit the club then please let a Committee Member know. This is a great way to repay these volunteers for investing in your child.

Come and join us!

Come and join us for fun and friendship and to show our kids that community spirit thrives at BMSC!

Working with Children Check

State Government legislation has deemed it a requirement that individuals whose profession or social/sporting activity involves interaction with minors have to have a valid Working With Children check before being allowed to partake in that activity. This is mandated as part of both the legislation and Child Safe Standards.

If you are a volunteer within our club, then a working with children's card is required. Application is at no personal cost to any volunteers. Please visit the website:

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

You must advise on your application that you are associated with BMSC. We strongly advise everyone to have a working with children's check. This way, we can ensure that all volunteers are covered and the safety of all of our children / players is maintained.

Regular checks are done throughout the season and up to date records are kept to ensure child safety within our club.

If you already have a working with children's check, you will need to update your details online to include Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club as an association that you volunteer for.

Team Managers

Along with the volunteer Committee and Coaches, these are some of the most important Volunteers in our club.

A Team Manager's position in the team is an extremely important one. The Team Manager is the person that assists and complements the coach by performing all administrative tasks required to run and maintain a successful team. Consequently, a good Team Manager will allow a coach to concentrate on coaching the players. This will ensure each player receives optimum attention and gives every player a chance to perform to the best of their ability.

It is up to the parents to appoint a Team Manager for their team. If more than one parent is interested in the role, a final decision is made by the Committee.

Duties include;

- Provide a contact point for team members, ensuring the coach is fully aware of a team member's availability.
- Compile team lists and match (day/location/time),
- Providing administrative support (supported by club committee)
- Team managers will roster parents for their duties for home games, incl. rosters for provision of oranges, and ground marshal and checking the kit bags for balls, goalkeeper equipment.

A Team Manager needs to be appointed for each team as soon as possible after teams are finalised. Emphasis is on helping the club; therefore, your input is essential and will be very much appreciated!

PHOTOGRAPHY

We are very fortunate that our club is supported by a local volunteer photographic enthusiast, Leanne Smith, who last year took over the role from our former photographer and club stalwart Pat Scamangas.

Much like Pat, Leanne's love of photography sees her travelling to matches near and far to capture the Scorpions in action.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Pre-season training usually begins mid- February at The Racecourse Reserve Maddingley. This will be regularly updated on the Web Site and Facebook sites.

At the beginning of April, prior to the commencement of competition, teams will be confirmed, and junior teams will commence training twice a week on Wednesdays and Fridays, with start times & finish times ranging between 5.30pm to 7.30 pm, depending on the age group. Coaches prior to the start of the season will confirm training times.

All registered players can expect an email or text message, and updates can be viewed on Facebook and Web site.

Players must be registered to train. Ensure you have registered at www.playfootballclub.com.au

Regular Attendance

Training is fundamental in developing team unity and commitment. The club recognizes however that on occasion players will have problems attending training due to other commitments. If a player cannot attend due to illness, injury, or a school commitment, they MUST advise the Coach or Team Manager in advance.

Players who do not attend training without notifying the Coach or Team Manager may find they are "benched" for part of the next match; this is entirely at the discretion of the Coach and decisions are fully supported by the club.

Wet/Dry weather policy – ground conditions will be assessed on a continuing basis and a decision made if grounds are suitable for training. Players are to contact their own Team Manager if in doubt whether training has been cancelled due to wet weather.

**All players MUST WEAR SHIN GUARDS, and SOCCER BOOTS AT EVERY TRAINING SESSION & MATCH and have a bottle of water, especially in the warmer months!
NO SHIN GUARDS and BOOTS, NO PLAY.**

Training

All players are expected to wear suitable sports attire for training. All players must wear soccer boots and shin pads for sessions on grass fields. A drink of water is required for ALL players at training sessions.

A parent/guardian or responsible adult must supervise all players at all times.

The Club cannot be held responsible for players left unattended during and after training or a match. They should arrive in adequate time to pick up their child at the cessation of both training and games.

All players are expected to wear suitable sports attire for training. All players must wear soccer boots/runners (depending on surface) and shin pads.

It is policy that parents do not enter on the training field to interact amongst the players and coaches. Please speak to the team manager if you have any questions, and coaches will address parents after field sessions have been completed. In this way distractions will be minimised to ensure a higher quality training session.

Coaches may wish to engage parents as volunteer assistants for training sessions. If you wish to be a regular volunteer, please speak to the team manager. Volunteer assistants must wear suitable sports footwear and attire.

If your child has special needs or requirements, please speak to your coach. It is essential that the coach is made aware of individual child requirements.

Team Selection

In determining the number of teams to be registered, account is taken of the number of eligible and registered players in each age group, availability of coaches and grounds for training and match day. Our aim is to try and accept all those who wish to play. If it is necessary to reduce squad sizes, a recommendation on players who are to be omitted shall be the responsibility of the Team Coach in conjunction with the committee.

Competitive Age Groups (Under 12s to Seniors)

Please note

- 1) By registering with the club and paying your fees you have the privilege to train with a competitive age squad from U12s to Seniors
- 2) It does not guarantee you any time on the field during a game.
- 3) A coach must select 16 players for, Under 14s to Seniors, match day squads. 14 players for Under 12s squads
- 4) A coach then selects 9 players (U12s) or 11 players (all other competitive squads) for the starting lineup.
- 5) Substitution during the game is at the discretion of the coach, if a coach chooses to make no substitutions or not use a particular squad member during a game that is their call as coach. The club will support them in the decision they make on game day.
- 6) This applies to both regular games during the season and finals.

Player selection for a squad or starting lineup is based upon:

1. Skill levels to play the game.
2. Attendance and attitude at training
3. Compliance with the code of conduct

GAME DAY

All players are expected to arrive, a minimum of 30 minutes, prior to the scheduled match start time. Your coach may alter this timeframe. Our older teams are expected at the match site ONE hour before start. This allows time for warm up and pre-match briefing.

All players should arrive at a game equipped with necessary sporting attire, which includes:

- Playing shirt
- Soccer boots
- SHIN Protectors
- Warm jacket as a minimum, or a clothing change
- DRINK, at least a litre of water or sports drink, NOT caffeinated and/or soft drinks.

If a player is sick or unable to make the game, please let Coach or the Team Manager know as soon as possible. If you are running late, please give a courtesy call, it saves anxiety on match day and helps us plan and look professional.

Uniform/Strip Requirements

- Navy blue socks (Home kit)
- Navy blue shorts
- Black socks (Away & Third kit) *
- Black shorts*

*Competitive age groups only

The Club supplies these game day shirts as required.

- Away Kit: Yellow
- Third Kit: Burgundy



Merchandise

The club has a range of club merchandise available via our website. These purchases provide a small amount of income for the club as well as helping us grow our club around the town. It is by no means compulsory, but purchases are appreciated.

COACHES

The club makes every attempt to have Coaches and Team Managers appointed in place during the prior to the commencement of pre-season training.

The Club adopts identical coaching guidelines and policy developed by the FV. These coaching guidelines are in place to ensure a high standard of quality coaching practices throughout clubs in Victoria. Incorporating techniques and strategies, rules, risk management and responsibilities (duty of care to their players).

The Club strives to ensure our coaches hold a current Coaching Licence within each respective accreditation.

REGISTRATION

Every child must be registered with the FV to play and train with our club. To do this, an online registration must be completed; this will give you a FV number.

All new players are required to have a FV number. This number then can be used to pay for registration fees.

www.playfootball.com.au

Self-Registration & FA Numbers

It is a Football Victoria requirement that all players will SELF REGISTER online via the PLAY FOOTBALL website.

Login is at <https://www.playfootball.com.au/keen-get-involved-football#>

The FA has also loaded some instructional video on YouTube for obtaining an FA Number, and Self Registering.

It is important that all necessary forms, online registration, and payments are completed as early as possible so that the administration process can be completed and team competition entries and fixtures can be worked out.

It is worth noting that Player insurance is included in Registration fees so to ensure your child accesses the insurance cover available through the FV you will need to register and pay your fees ASAP.

FEES

2026 Fees

Saturday Morning Miniroos	\$100.00
Mixed Under 8s – Under 11s	\$270.00
Girls Under 8s – Under 10s	\$220.00
Mixed Under 12s – Under 16s	\$340.00
Girls Under 12s – Under 14s	\$270.00
Seniors	\$420.00
Senior Women	\$320.00



The club reviews registration fees every year and fees are calculated to cover player and club running costs. It is not the intention of the club to make a profit from player registration fees.

Payment

Club Fees are payable via the PlayFootball website

****VERY IMPORTANT****

Please ensure you have updated the personal details attached to you Player's FA number before registering.

No player will be allowed to play in any official matches or be registered with FV until full payment is received. Your player will NOT BE REGISTERED and will not be allowed to PLAY or TRAIN until full payment is made. In exceptional circumstances the club committee may approve payment plans.

The Club reserves the right to withdraw any player that has not paid his/her membership and another player will be offered their place.

If you are having difficulties with the Self-Registration Process, please see the Registration Officer.

Registration fees cover the following:

- Team and Player registration and insurance with FV/ FA
- Moorabool Shire/Racecourse Reserve User fees and Charges (includes utilities such as electricity and cleaning)
- Referees' fees for every home game
- Purchase of club training equipment
- Coaches' education (Please note that our coaches do not get paid, but we pay for their training)
- Purchase of safety/first aid equipment
- Other costs such as line marking of grounds, consumables (toilet paper) printing costs, advertising, etc.
- Purchasing playing kits



Insurance

Whilst it is not club policy to insure junior players the club will adhere to any directive as set down by Football Victoria (FV).

FV has compulsory player personal accident insurance (covered by registration fees), which covers all registered Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club players while training or playing for Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club. Details of this insurance cover can be obtained from the FV website.

However, the Club strongly recommends that each player be covered by private health insurance. The Club will not be liable for any cost not covered by the FV insurance.

Insurance policies and what is covered are detailed can be found via the FV web site at: <https://www.footballvictoria.com.au/insurance-homepage-draft>

Any claims for injury must be made to the FV insurer.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club Inc. is governed by the Rules and Regulations found in this handbook as well as those of our governing bodies:

1. Football Federation of Australia
<https://www.footballaustralia.com.au/governance/statutes-and-regulations>
2. Football Federation of Victoria,
<https://www.footballvictoria.com.au/constitution>
3. Ballarat and District Soccer Association.
<http://www.ballaratsoccer.com.au>

Also, all Club members are governed by Club Rules as included in this Handbook

Fines

Football Victoria can impose fines for a variety of reasons, late entry fees, playing ineligible players, player, coaches and parents' misconduct, failure to provide a referee (where the designated match official does not attend fixture and the home Club does not appoint a volunteer referee), red card (sending off) offences or incidents which are deemed to bring the Game and the governing body (FV) into disrepute.

These fines range from \$50 - \$900 depending on the level of the charge.

The Club message is loud and clear on the issue of fines. Fines to the Club resulting from inappropriate player / parent / spectator behaviour will be deemed to be the sole responsibility of the perpetrator(s) and those responsible for the fine being imposed on the Club will be responsible for the payment of that fine.

Red Card Fines

Players who receive a Red Card during the Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club season will incur a penalty from the BDSA. Players must reimburse the BMSC in total for the cost of the Red Card Fines. Failure to reimburse these fees promptly may result in your player being unable to take the field upon completion of their disqualification period.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Shin-pads are a compulsory piece of equipment for ALL players (even at senior level) and players are not permitted to play without them.

First Aid Kits are provided by the Club and are available while training or playing in home or away matches. Parents/Guardians are reminded that they are responsible for any medications that a child might require. Parents should discuss their child's special needs with the coach at the beginning of the season.

For the safety of all, players must not wear jewellery such as rings, earrings, bracelets, watches/fitbits necklaces etc. during games. Earrings can only be worn if they are covered over with tape, but please be aware the REFEREE has final say on this issue and may ask the player to remove the earring(s).

Asthma is a very common disorder. Sport Medicine Australia stresses the need for correct use of inhalers for both the treatment and prevention of asthma attacks and also to prevent exercise induced asthma.

BMSC has achieved Level 0 Accreditation with The Australian Drug Foundations' Good Sports Program.

Focus Areas of Level 0 include:

- Alcohol-free facilities
- Smoke-free environment.
- Promotion of Good Sports
- Safe transport policy
- Alcohol management policy

See more at: <http://goodsports.com.au>

Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club recognises that passive smoking and vaping is hazardous to health and those non-smoking club members and visitors have the right to be protected from exposure to tobacco smoke.

Accordingly, the following policy shall apply to all club facilities, functions, meetings and activities undertaken by the club and will apply to all members, players, administrators, officials and club visitors.

No smoking is to take place within 10 meters of players during games and training facilities.

All club facilities are to be 100% smoke and alcohol free and will include:

- The social rooms including kitchen, meeting rooms, veranda, toilets and storage areas.
- Player change rooms including warm up areas, toilets and showers and medical room.

HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club is committed to providing a sporting environment where each participant is a valued member of the club, where they are treated fairly, and are given recognition for their contribution to the club's success.

The club also aims to provide an environment that is pleasant for participants to train and play in and that is conducive to good sportsmanship.

At Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club, harassment or discrimination whether verbal, physical or environmental is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

INDIVIDUAL CODE OF CONDUCT

Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club aims to develop and improve the skills, game play, and team spirit of its players and teams. It is important that all spectators, club officials, team officials, parents, and players are able to enjoy the match in a safe and comfortable environment. The Club requires its players, parents and officials to be uncompromising in aspects of fair play and good sportsmanship. Please read and adhere to the following Codes of Conduct.

Each person present must

- Respect the decisions of the Match Officials and teach children to do the same.
- Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their race, colour, religion, language, political views, sexual preference, national or ethnic origin.
- Not engage in the use of violence in any form, physical, verbal or emotional, whether it is by other spectators, team officials (including coaches) or players.
- Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form whether lawful or otherwise, including but not limited to the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting
- Not carry, light or throw flares or missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators)
- Not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority and
- Conduct them self in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of football generally.
- Not bring or cause to be brought or consume alcohol or illicit drugs at our Club facilities and functions.

Players

Players are expected to show positive attitudes and to follow directions given by coaches.

Players must always show courtesy towards teammates.

Coaches will not permit name-calling, teasing, criticizing or other acts designed to hurt feelings or cause injury. If any team member tells you of a problem, do not hesitate to talk to the coach about it. All players must be willing to play all positions, and follow the instructions given by coaches.

In the case of a severe disciplinary problem a player could be asked to leave the team and the Club. This decision will be made by the Committee (after any consultation process has been exhausted) and would only happen in cases where behaviour cannot be modified to allow fellow teammates and spectators to be comfortable in that team's environs.

All Players must:

- Never argue with an official.
- If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether your team or the opposition makes them.
- Treat all participants in your sport, as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.

- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
-

Coaches

Remember that as a coach you represent a role model. Never teach young players bad habits.

Never ridicule or yell at a young player for making a mistake or for conceding. Be reasonable in your demands on players' time energy and enthusiasm.

Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.

Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators. Encourage your players to do the same.

Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the players' skill development. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background and religion.

All Coaches must:

- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of young people where appropriate (e.g. Small Sided Games)
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes, which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Give all young people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion

Administrators/Team Managers/Club Officials

All Administrators/Team Managers/Club Officials will:

- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player but as a coach, referee & administrator.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players.
- Remember that young people participate for their enjoyment and benefit. Do not overemphasize awards.
- Emphasize fair play and not winning at all costs.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.

Spectators

Remember that young people participate in sport for their enjoyment and benefit, not yours.

All Spectators must:

- Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams.
- Congratulate all participants on their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.
- Never ridicule or scold a young player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials' decisions.
- Do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Parents, Carers and Families

Here are a few guidelines that adults and spectators in general should follow.

Cheer - don't coach. Avoid yelling specific instructions. This can be extremely confusing for a child and possibly contrary to the Coach's instructions.

Avoid confrontation with any of the opposition supporters. It is better to walk away and leave your reputation, the team's reputation and the Club's reputation intact rather than getting involved in a 'nobody wins' confrontation.

Report to the coach all injuries, special medical conditions (such as asthma) or extenuating circumstances (such as lack of sleep or family crisis) that may affect the player physically or emotionally.

Respect the facilities at both your home ground and the opposition's ground. If you have questions or concerns, relay the information to the team manager, who will take it to the Coach.

Do not approach a coach on game day, before or after the game, in relation to a Coach's decision, which has affected player time, position or game format.

On the way home, try and focus on the positive aspects of your child's performance.

Each parent/guardian is responsible for his or her child. As a parent/guardian you are required to be at all training sessions and game day. If a player has special requirements, it is up to the parent to notify the coach and assist with the requirements of the player. This ensures the coaches can spread their time equally throughout the team.

All Parents and Carers must:

- Appreciate that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours
- Encourage children to participate do not force them
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing
- Encourage children to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition

- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful play by all participants
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise
- Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Breach of the Code of Conduct

Any breaches of the code of conduct will be referred to the committee for an appropriate course of action. Breaches may result in a caution or formal letter of warning being issued. An infringement of the same nature will result in match bans and ultimately exclusion from the club.

Severe breaches such as violent or threatening behaviour to players/ coaches/ parents etc. will result in expulsion from the club and potentially from the FV/FA. Inappropriate parental behaviour will adversely affect the children as the entire family may be asked to leave the club.



The Pride of the Shire - We are Bacchus Marsh



Attachment 1; 2026 Player/Parent Agreement – Terms and Conditions

Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club Inc. 2026 Player/Parent Agreement -Terms and Conditions

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The following are the Terms and Conditions of the Club, which you agree to when you finalise your child's/ren online registration.

1. We have received and read the Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club 2025 Parents and Players Handbook which outlines all Club rules, regulations, codes of behaviour and guidelines under which the Club is governed and agree to be bound by these. We also acknowledge that we are bound by the Rules and Regulations as stated by the Football Federation of Australia, the Football Federation of Victoria, and our affiliation body, the Ballarat and District Soccer Association.
2. We acknowledge that we understand where the insurance policy held by the Club with respect to medical and like expenses incurred as a result of injuries suffered by the players during the course of training and/or competition does not cover all of the medical and like expenses any shortfall in the cost of obtaining urgent and/or continuing medical treatment shall be borne by us.
3. We understand that players who have not paid their registration fee may not be selected to play.
4. We consent, unless we otherwise advise in writing to the Club, to the use of our child/children's details including name and also image and likeness, before, during or after the season for promotional, broadcasting or reporting purposes in any media.
5. We give permission to the Club to attend to any medical or emergency needs for our child/children, in the event that neither parent, nor guardian is present and we agree to meet all resulting medical expenses. We also acknowledge it is our responsibility to ensure the Club, in writing, is fully aware of any medical condition that may affect our child whilst engaged in soccer activities.
6. We consent to our child/children's contact details be made available to Club officials (i.e. coach, team manager).
7. We acknowledge that soccer training and games is a contact sport and accordingly hold the Club harmless against all claims of whatsoever nature arising out of any injury, loss or damage suffered as a result of any player participating in any authorised Club soccer training or game.
8. We agree to reimburse the club for any loss or damage to Club equipment (this includes the playing strip) due to our or our child's negligence.

