

# Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club



## PLAYERS & PARENTS INFORMATION GUIDELINES

**ALL ENQUIRIES AND CORRESPONDENCE MUST GO  
DIRECTLY TO THE M.E.S.C. CLUB SECRETARY  
([secretary@mesc.org.au](mailto:secretary@mesc.org.au)).**

**Club Website is: [www.mesc.org.au](http://www.mesc.org.au)**

**DO NOT CONTACT QCSA OFFICIALS DIRECT.**

*Like us on Facebook* – Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club

# Table of Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction and Club Vision .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	By-Laws.....	4
1.1.1	Alcohol.....	4
1.1.2	Smoking.....	4
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Club Management Contact Details .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Registration .....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	How are the Registration Fees spent? .....	5
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Fields and Facilities .....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1	Training Fields .....	5
4.2	Parking at Citipointe.....	6
4.3	Rubbish at both Fields .....	6
4.4	Canteen .....	6
4.5	Canteens at other Fields.....	6
4.6	Caring for our Goal Areas .....	6
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Uniform .....</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1	Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club – Official Uniform .....	7
5.2	Skins or similar Garments.....	7
5.3	Soccer Boots and Shin Guards.....	7
5.4	Tape Used to Secure Socks .....	7
5.5	Jewellery.....	7
5.6	Medic Alert Bracelet and Necklace .....	7
5.7	Glasses.....	7
5.8	Hats .....	7
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Equipment Required by Each Player .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Team Officials.....</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1	Coaches and Managers.....	7
7.1.1	Coaching Courses .....	8
7.2	Vested Official.....	8
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Team Roster for Weekly Mandatory Duties .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Field Set Up and Pack Up.....</b>	<b>9</b>
9.1	Games at Citipointe .....	9
9.2	Games at Weedon Street.....	9
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Competition .....</b>	<b>9</b>
10.1	South East Zone .....	10
10.2	The Draw .....	10
10.3	Training and Fixtures .....	10
10;	Travel Involved to Games .....	10
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Team Formation .....</b>	<b>11</b>
11.1	Transition from Under 8 to Under 9.....	11
11.2	Under 9 and Over Grading of Competitive Players and Teams .....	11
<b>12.0</b>	<b>Wet Weather .....</b>	<b>12</b>
12.1	MESC Wet Weather Process for Training and Games.....	12
12.1.1	Training Process.....	12
12.1.2	Games Process .....	12

<b>13.0</b>	<b>Game Day Information .....</b>	<b>14</b>
13.1	Match Duration .....	14
13.2	Spectator Rules at Weedon Street Soccer Field .....	14
13.3	Technical Area.....	14
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Borrowing Players – Competition.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>15.0</b>	<b>Player Participation.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16.0</b>	<b>Training Information .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17.0</b>	<b>Player Injury.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>18.0</b>	<b>Refund Policy .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>19.0</b>	<b>Child Protection and Photographing Players .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>20.0</b>	<b>Finals and Other Final Competitions.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>21.0</b>	<b>Discipline and Behaviour Policy .....</b>	<b>17</b>
21.1	Referees .....	17
21.2	Cautions and Offences .....	17
21.3	Authority of Coaches, Managers and Vested Official .....	18
21.4	Formal Reporting Process and Consequences .....	18
<b>22.0</b>	<b>End of Season .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>23.0</b>	<b>Reference Websites .....</b>	<b>19</b>

## 1.0 Introduction and Club Vision

**Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club (MESOC)** was established in 1992. We are a Christian based club affiliated with the **Queensland Christian Soccer Association**. We are therefore governed by their By-Laws and FIFA Laws. QCSA's motto is **'For God Through Sport'**.

Here at Mansfield Eagles, our aim is to make available to young people (both boys & girls as well as senior men & women), the ability to play soccer in an environment mixed with fair play, respect, encouragement and team work. Our own motto is **'Skills For Life'**.

We believe in building and maintaining Christian characteristics, attitudes, standards of behaviour and sportsmanship that will carry each player through their entire life, not only in the sporting arena, but attributes that will be a positive benefit to each player, their family and the community into the future.

Our sponsoring church for membership is the **Citipointe Christian Church, Brisbane**.

### Our Vision

*Training young boys and girls to become men and women  
who are determined to excel through personal discipline,  
teamwork and sportsmanship in an environment  
promoting Christian family values and ethics.*

## Eagles Soccer – Skills for Life

### 1.1 BY-LAWS

#### 1.1.1 ALCOHOL

Alcohol is prohibited at all QCSA games. Government smoking regulations are also adhered to at QCSA games (By Law 25.2.1). The By-Laws of the QCSA can be found by going to the following link. <http://www.qcsa.org.au/attachments/Bylaws121130.1.pdf>

Please do not take alcohol to games at all. If there are QCSA Officials present at games and they find alcohol, the offending team will be fined. Weedon Street is now licensed and sells alcohol. But if you plan on purchasing alcohol, it must be consumed inside the building or on the balcony only. It is NOT to be taken to the side of the fields or car park. This is against the licensing restrictions Weedon Street have in place, and if caught, you will be fined by the appropriate authority. The Vested Official will ask you to not drink alcohol at games and has the authority to ask you to remove yourself from the fields, both at Weedon Street and COC (Citipointe).

#### 1.1.2 SMOKING

As per directive from our sponsoring church, Citipointe Christian Church, smoking is prohibited on the whole Citipointe Campus.

When attending a game at another club's fields, please be mindful of the general ruling to make sure it is done well and truly away from the soccer field and spectators/crowd. If you are advised there is no smoking on their campus, please respect this. The Vested Official will ask you to remove yourself from the spectators if you choose to smoke at games.

All members should read the above directives and familiarise themselves with the By Laws, especially as they pertain to your age group and role within the club, whether your role is a parent, player, coach, manager or club official.

## **2.0 Club Management and Contact Details**

Please refer to our website [www.mesc.org.au](http://www.mesc.org.au) for the list of Club Officials. Click on Contacts / Navigation Menu / left-handed side of the Home page.

Please remember that we are always looking for new people to get involved in the running of the club. Our club is like a small business that relies on voluntary assistance to run it. We believe in spreading out the workload as much as possible.

If you are a Facebook user, we suggest you “Like” our Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club Facebook page and also the Qld Christian Soccer Association Page.

## **3.0 Registration**

Only registered players are eligible to train or participate in matches. Unregistered players are not covered by insurance. In addition, the club will incur a fine from QCSA each time an unregistered player’s name appears on the match sheet.

### **3.1 HOW ARE THE REGISTRATION FEES SPENT?**

- Ground costs including maintenance and improvements
- Match Jersey & Team Strips
- Association fees
- Power for floodlights and hire of field at Weedon Street
- New equipment (including shirts, balls and nets)
- Stationery and postage costs
- Referees’ fees
- Insurance
- Trophies
- Advertising
- Training of coaches and managers
- Photo Registered Player ID
- Team photographs
- Initial stocking of canteen

## **4.0 Fields and Facilities**

We are grateful and blessed to have the continuing support of Citipointe Christian Church and Citipointe Christian College, Brisbane.

**No alcohol and No smoking at Citipointe Campus as per By-Laws above.**

### **4.1 TRAINING FIELDS**

Generally, Junior team’s home field will be the Citipointe Christian College field, 322 Wecker Rd, Carindale, and Senior teams home field will be the field at Weedon St West (corner of the Gateway Motorway on ramp heading north & Mt Gravatt Capalaba Road). This will depend on how the draw is done, and the availability of fields at certain times. There may be days when Junior teams play at Weedon St and Senior teams may play at the College.

The Weedon St field is also where some teams train under lights during the week.

For teams training straight after school, they will train at Citipointe Christian College, on the soccer field, unless advised otherwise.

#### **4.2 PARKING AT CITIPOINTE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE FOR TRAINING AND GAMES**

**Parking near the school buses is prohibited.** This is a directive from the Business Office and the Head of Bus Operations.

There are **No Parking** signs erected around the bus shed. Plus there will be orange cones preventing people driving through the buses on game days. Buses are worked on after school and occasionally on Saturdays, so there needs to be room for the buses to be moved around. If you are parked there, and a bus hits your car, you are at fault. **All cars must park in the lower church car park only.**

If you need to drop someone off near the field or deliver items to the canteen, or gear for games/training, you can park near the bus shed **for two minutes only**, then move your car back to the lower church car park. Please do this with care. This directive is also for the safety of the children. There have been several near misses of children nearly being hit by cars moving in and out of the area. Children cannot be seen clearly when there are buses parked, blocking the view. Please pass this information onto friends and relatives who come to games to spectate or are assisting you with transport to games and training.

#### **4.3 RUBBISH AT BOTH FIELDS**

Please make sure rubbish is placed in the bins provided at both fields. We are guests at both venues, and we need to make sure the fields are tidy at the end of each Saturday and after training.

Encourage players to place their rubbish in the bin, especially the tape used to secure socks and boots. Tape in particular wrecks mower blades.

Clubs are fined by the Mt Gravatt Youth and Recreation Club if fields are left untidy and unlocked at Weedon Street. The fine is \$100.00. This will be passed onto teams responsible for leaving the rubbish behind. Encourage the opposition teams to clean up after themselves as well.

#### **4.4 CANTEEN**

The club runs a canteen at the College field every match day where we sell hot and cold drinks, chips, lolly bags, sausage rolls and pies. Sausage sizzles are also run on some weekends. Please support this vital fundraiser for the club.

Club gear, information on games and lost property can also be obtained from the canteen.

Each week teams from U7 to U17/18 will be rostered to serve in the canteen when they have a home game at the College. Managers of each team will draw up a roster to let you know when it is your turn to serve in the canteen.

#### **4.5 CANTEENS AT OTHER FIELDS**

Not all fields you will travel to have canteens. Please make sure you have plenty of water to drink when travelling to other fields. And a reminder to make sure water is taken to training for players to consume.

#### **4.6 CARING FOR OUR GOAL AREAS**

**Coaches and Parents, please do not let your children play in the full field goal area while the Under 7 and Under 8 games are in progress. We also ask that children do not pull on the nets covering the full field goals. These requests are for your children's safety as well as the care of the goal area. When Under 7 and Under 8 games are in progress, there should be no one**

**practicing or playing in the goal area. Coaches, this area should not be used as a warm up area prior to a game either.**

This goal area needs to be in acceptable condition for full field competition games to be played. The referees will inspect the goal areas prior to a full field game commencing. If it is not acceptable, the game may not be able to go ahead.

At times the college places barrier tape around the goal area to allow the area to recover. This means no one is to use the goal area at this time. Please respect this.

## **5.0 Uniform**

### **5.1 MANSFIELD EAGLES SOCCER CLUB – OFFICIAL UNIFORM**

- Match Jersey – given to player at the game each week by manager (supplied by club)
- White shorts
- Club Socks
- Training Shirt – to be worn to and from games.
- Shin Guards
- Soccer Boots

Club Polo Shirt, caps, white shorts, Mansfield Eagles Socks and Club Jackets can be purchased through the club by completing an order form on sign on day, or by contacting our Purchasing Officer, Margaret Smith by email, [mandm\\_smith@hotmail.com](mailto:mandm_smith@hotmail.com) or on 0414 765 358.

If you have any second hand soft spiked football boots or other second hand club gear you would like to donate to the club, please contact our Purchasing Officer. You can also bring any second hand items to Sign On Day and place in a box which will be set up near the Information Desk.

### **5.2 SKINS OR SIMILAR GARMENTS**

These garments can be worn, but there are **restrictions**. They must be the **same colour** as the uniform colour and the pants are not to be below the knee. This is the FIFA ruling, and the QCSRA are following this ruling. If you need to wear this garment below the knee, you are required to have a Medical Certificate with you at all games. It will be at your own risk if you wear black or other colour garments. If you do have black garments, they cannot be seen under the shorts or jerseys during normal activity on the field. The referee has the right to ask players to remove them. If the player refuses to remove them, he or she may not be allowed to participate in the game.

So, Mansfield Eagles players can wear white skins under shorts, and long sleeve tops can be blue. But please remember the Referee has the final say, regardless of the colour of the garments.

### **5.3 SOCCER BOOTS AND SHIN GUARDS**

**All** players must wear **Soccer Boots (no metal studs)** and **Shin Guards** when training and playing games. You will not be allowed to participate without them. This is for insurance and safety reasons.

### **5.4 TAPE USED TO SECURE SOCKS**

Many players use PVC/Electrical Tape to secure socks and shin guards. The tape **MUST** be the same colour as the socks. Mansfield Eagles players must use ROYAL BLUE tape only. Players will be asked to remove tape if it is the wrong colour. Tape on boots should be the same colour as boots, black or blue to be safe. At the end of games, please make sure any tape removed is **PLACED IN RUBBISH BINS**. It can cause serious problems if it is caught up in mower blades and makes the field look unsightly.

## 5.5 JEWELLERY

**No jewellery**, including wedding bands, bracelets (any type), rings, earrings, hair clips and watches, are allowed to be worn when playing soccer. Long hair must be tied back.

## 5.6 MEDIC ALERT BRACELET AND NECKLACES

These are considered jewellery, and must not be worn on the field. If your child or yourself wear one, you must make sure your coach and manager are fully aware of the allergy or medical condition, and what is required if something unforeseen should happen. The referee also needs to be made aware of this as well. He or she must know what the allergy or medical condition is, what is required if something unforeseen should happen and what number the player is wearing on the field.

## 5.7 GLASSES

Glasses can be worn as long as the lenses are safety lenses, and they are secured at the back of your head with a strap or taped securely to side of face.

## 5.8 HATS

Hats are not to be worn on the field. Goal keepers can wear a soft brimmed hat if absolutely necessary.

## 6.0 Equipment Required by Each Player

Players are required to have the following:

### WEEKLY TRAINING SESSIONS:

- Training Clothing (can wear Club Polo)
- Soccer Socks
- Shin pads **NO shin pads NO training**
- Soft spiked football boots **(a must)**
- Drink
- Ball

### GAME DAY:

- Club polo shirt worn to and from the game
- One pair of plain white shorts **(a must)**
- Mansfield Eagles Club Socks **(a must)**
- Shin pads **NO shin pads, NO game**
- Soft spiked football boots **(a must)**
- Drink
- Match Jerseys - Supplied by the club on the day

Club Polo Shirt, caps, white shorts, Mansfield Eagles Socks and Club Jackets can be purchased through the club by completing an order form on sign on day, by contacting our Purchasing Officer, Margaret Smith by email, [mandm\\_smith@hotmail.com](mailto:mandm_smith@hotmail.com) or on 0414 765 358, or purchasing at the canteen when season has started.

## 7.0 Team Officials

### 7.1 COACHES AND MANAGERS

Every team requires a Coach and a Manager. The Coach is responsible for training the team in soccer skills during the week and overseeing the game on Saturdays. The Manager is responsible for the administrative side which includes the match cards, having the Registered Player List available at the game, drawing up the rosters, appointing the Vested Official and general communication.

Both the Coach and the Manager work together to ensure training and games go smoothly each week. We need parents of Junior teams to volunteer to coach and manage the teams. Usually these roles are carried out by fathers, mothers or older siblings on a volunteer basis. Please consider these two roles seriously. If we don't have these roles filled, then we cannot put the team into the competition, and there is a real possibility players will be unable to play. Information is provided to those who volunteer for the role of Coach and Manager.



For Senior teams, again, both a Coach and Manager are required. These roles can be filled by players, but it is usually preferable if they are not players. These roles are not easy to fill. We as a club have limited resources at our disposal. So we also ask teams to seek out people to take on the roles of Coach and Manager. Often the roles are filled by fathers or friends who have experience and knowledge of soccer. If you have any contacts who would be interested in taking on the role of coaching or managing a Senior team, please let Club Registrar, Kerri Sidney, know via email, registrar@mesc.org.au This will be greatly appreciated.

Each year there is a Coaches and Managers Information Night in March prior to the season starting.

### 7.1.1 COACHING COURSES

The QCSA Director of Coaching also holds Junior, Youth and Senior Coaching License Courses which are FFA Accredited. See the below link for details. The club will subsidise the cost of the course. Places fill up quickly, so if you are interested in attending one, please contact Tibor Hagymus directly and let the Club Secretary know you will be attending one of the courses.

<http://www.qcsa.org.au>

### 7.2 VESTED OFFICIAL

Parents at junior games will be asked to take on the role of Vested Official. At senior games, either a spectator in attendance or if there are no spectators, the captain of the senior mens over 40s team takes on the role of the vested official. **The Vested Official must sign the match card at every game.** The club will be fined if this is not done.

#### Team Vested Official Duties

- must walk onto the field with your team, at the start of the game, so the referee knows who you are (Under 9 and up);
- is required for all teams that partake in the QCSA fixture competitions;
- QCSA prefers a fluoro orange vest to be worn, but other fluoro colours are acceptable;
- Is the person who controls the crowd / spectators. Often it can be the Team Manager of that team; can never be the coach;
- cannot be involved in any running of the team, i.e. interchanges or positional changes;
- are required to add their name and sign the Match Card to indicate who they are to the QCSA so QCSA can contact as required;
- are to observe the game from where the majority of the spectators are. Not on their own on the other side of the field, and definitely not from the coaches / interchange boxes;
- is the person that the referee will speak to, if the referee has an off field problem that needs sorting out;
- when off field problems, such as referee abuse, smoking in wrong areas, alcohol, or other issues are present, it is this person's responsibility to stop it;
- is required to control all spectators (not just their own). It is helpful though, if any problems need to be dealt with, for the Vested Officials to deal with it together;
- Clubs must ensure managers / coaches are very careful about the people they ask to do this position;
- must be at least 18 years old, since obviously a 12 year old can hardly be expected to do the above;
- Likewise a 95 year old would be unable to fulfil the duties;
- QCSA suggests that teams have a parent / person that is prepared to do it most weeks, so they are aware of the responsibility (and perhaps have a backup for when the original person is way);
- **EVERY GAME MUST HAVE A VESTED OFFICIAL PRESENT FROM BOTH TEAMS;**
- teams can be fined and have a loss of points for non-compliance;
- in certain cases, SCM can rule that teams have to have multiple Vested Officials;
- aside from the start of the match, must never enter the field of play without the referee's consent and ensure that no spectators do either;

- for Senior Teams, we do recognise that a lot of teams have just the players and no spectators. In these cases, it is preferred that the Vested Official is the starting Captain. That person must still sign the match card and do all the duties as outlined above. If there are any spectators with your team, then this is not allowed.

As you can see from above, the Vested Official is a very important position and the person / people chosen to fulfil this task must be appropriate. It is as important (if not more so) as the person chosen to coach each team.

## 8.0 Team Roster for Weekly Mandatory Duties

The Managers of each team draw up rosters for parents for the season. Mandatory rostered duties for parents of U7 to U17/18 teams are Canteen duty, washing team jerseys, set up/pack up of field and bringing oranges to the game. These duties are very important for the smooth running of teams and their games. Senior teams will have rosters that pertain to the running of their team, which will be drawn up by coach and/or manager. Teams playing at Weedon Street, will also be responsible for the setting up and packing up of the field each Saturday.

## 9.0 Field Set Up and Pack Up

Field Set Up and Pack Up is a rostered duty and **must be done by a parent**, not by the coach or manager of the team as they have other duties to complete.

### 9.1 GAMES AT CITIPOINTE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE SOCCER FIELD

The U7/U8 fields will need to be set up each Saturday, and then packed up. This will need to be done by the team rostered on. Margaret Smith will draw up a roster to indicate which team will be responsible for setting up and packing up each week. A parent will be rostered on for this duty when your team is the Home Team. The nets on the goal posts will need to be secure to the ground with pegs and to the posts with tape and the corner posts will need to be put in. Again, parents/players need to be responsible for this, not the coach or manager. You will be shown how to set up and pack up. It will be very important that the packing up is done swiftly as there will be a full field game that will follow on straight after the last U7 or U8 game. U9 and older age groups play on the full field.

Under 9 and above - If your team is the first full field game after an U7/U8 game, there is generally only about 10 – 15 minutes break. Your help in assisting the U7/U8 team with packing up the field will make the changeover for the full field game quicker.

### 9.2 GAMES AT WEEDON STREET FIELD

The first team of the day is responsible for setting up the field and the last team of the day is responsible for packing up. At times, this will be the same team with only one gate at Weedon Street.

Setting up / packing up field is a rostered duty and not the responsibility of the coach or manager of your team. The coach or the manger will have the key to the room where the nets and corner posts are stored. When packing up, make sure ALL pegs are picked up and put away. They will wreck the mower blades if left lying around. Replacing mower blades on ride on mowers is expensive. Finally, please make sure equipment is locked away in the room.

## 10.0 Competition

Our club is registered and plays in the Queensland Christian Soccer Association competition (QCSA). All games are played on Friday nights or Saturdays. As this is a Christian Organisation, there are certain rules that pertain specifically to this. The use of foul language and blaspheming by players, coaches, managers and spectators is prohibited. Player's use of foul language and

blaspheming results with being issued a Red Card in the game. Coaches and Managers can also be placed on report, and spectators can be asked to leave the field.

### **10.1 SOUTH EAST ZONE**

Mansfield Eagles is part of the South East Zone. The clubs in the QCSA are placed in zones, and on the long weekend in June, there is a zone competition. Teams are made up of players from the clubs within South East Zone. Players from U10 to Senior are eligible to try out. The venue for the Zone Competition is to be advised. Information on the Zone Titles will be sent to you throughout the season with regards to trials to play in a Zone team, dates, etc.

### **10.2 THE DRAW AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON**

The 2015 season begins on Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> for Over 30 Men and Over 40 Men and Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> Senior Men with round 17. The Juniors begin on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of April with round 1 (Seniors and Overage will also play round 1 this weekend). The draw won't be available until at least one to two weeks prior to the beginning of the season. When it is finalised, you will be notified as to how to access the draw for each age group.

To access the details of your team's games for this season:

[www.qcsa.org.au](http://www.qcsa.org.au)

Select Fixtures on the Home Page

Select Mansfield Eagles as the Club

Select Age Group and Division

Then click Show Results.

### **10.3 FIXTURES AND TRAINING TIMES**

Match draw & results for competitive teams are published on the QCSA website.

Please note the scheduling of games sometimes occurs on the first or last week of school holidays. You will be advised of the time and venue of the first match of the year once the draw has been determined by the QCSA.

Training days, times & field allocations will be set by the Club Registrar in consultation with team coaches.

### **10.4 TRAVEL INVOLVED TO GAMES**

The QCSA has Clubs from all over Brisbane, Caloundra, Ipswich, Brisbane Valley area, Beaudesert and Boonah. There are times when you will have to travel to games, up to 90 minutes from as young as U8. As much as is possible, the QCSA try to organise age groups where long distances are at a minimum, but it comes down to which clubs submit teams in each age group.

Please be aware that you may have to travel long distances to games this season. Carpooling can be a great option for long distance games. In the past some teams have also planned a team BBQ on the days where there is travelling involved.

## **11.0 Team Formation**

Immediately after sign on, the committee begins the process of organising all players into teams, and the allocation of coaches and managers to those teams. We always do our best to place every player who has registered into a team. Unfortunately, there are times when this may not be possible, due to lack of numbers or too many players in an age group. In this case, your fees will be refunded, and clothing can be returned and refunded if not worn. We can also refer you onto another local club at your request.

You will be contacted in February or March notifying you of your team, coach, manager, training day, training time and training ground via email. Training won't commence for teams until Coaches have

been appointed. Special requests can be made for players when registering online, eg, preferred training night, to play with certain friends or be coached by a certain coach. Again, we try to give players their requests, but this is not always possible. If you want to make a special request after registering, please contact Club Registrar, Kerri Sidney, on registrar@mesc.org.au

### **11.1 TRANSITION FROM UNDER 8 TO UNDER 9**

Specific changes when progressing from Under 8 to Under 9 play include:

- Games are played on full size fields
- There are 11 players on the field
- The teams will consist of 11 to 15 players
- New rules to learn such as offside, interchange rules, penalty shots, official referees, positional play, distances for kicks from goal line and more
- Coach is not allowed on field

### **11.2 UNDER 9 AND OLDER – GRADING OF COMPETITIVE PLAYERS AND TEAMS**

Under 9 and Under 10 teams are formed to be of as equal standard as is possible due to the chance of 2 of our teams playing against each other. Teams in Under 9 and above play in the QCSA competition and play 11 a side with a recommended maximum of 15 players.

Players in Under 11 and above are graded together with players of similar capability, if we have enough players for 2 teams. This grading process will be coordinated by the committee following sign-on and prior to the commencement of the season to allow for each team to commence its pre-season training.

The grading process will be undertaken with the help of the previous year's coaches (where possible). The Committee's decision relating to grading of players is final.

The club aims to enhance the philosophy of developing players to their full potential and takes pride in the fact that we provide a pathway for talented juniors to pursue further avenues at State & National levels along with the social environment for players at all levels.

Grading is a process the Club performs for players in age groups from under 9 and up. Whilst the Club nominates to the QCSA the division into which each team is placed, the team divisions are ultimately set by the QCSA and the Club have no control over their final decision.

## **12.0 Wet Weather**

### **12.1 M.E.S.C. – WET WEATHER PROCESS FOR TRAINING AND GAMES**

Please check the club website [www.mesc.org.au](http://www.mesc.org.au) under the Home page / Wet Weather for Training for updates on weather training is on during wet weather.

The general Rule of Thumb for wet weather is “Unless notified that fields have been withdrawn, Training and Games are On”.

#### **12.1.1 TRAINING PROCESS**

When we have wet weather, the Club Registrar will be notified by the school (Citipointe) and MGYR (Weedon St) if we have to cancel training. This is done either by phone, text or email. If we have been given plenty of notice the Club Registrar will email the coach and manager of the teams affected, so they can let the team know. If it is a same day cancellation, the club registrar will email and text the coach and manager of the teams affected. Sometimes the notice doesn't come until around 2.00pm in the afternoon, so in that situation, the manager/coach will have to urgently contact the team, especially if they are training straight after school. This is best done by texting the

nominated SMS number that parents have provided on the contact list. We suggest that coaches and managers have these numbers saved in their phone, so team members can be notified asap.

**Manager/Coach will need you to reply to Club Registrar's notification of training being cancelled so that the registrar knows you have received the message.**

The club has a SMS System set up through the website. If need be, and registrar is at home at the time an urgent message comes through, she will send those affected a SMS notification via the website. The Club Secretary will also have this ability. The main purpose of this system is for Cancellation of Games, but it can be used for training if necessary. For example, if the Club Registrar hasn't received notification that received the message of urgent cancellation, we can use the SMS system then.

*Coaches/Managers* - NB: Please check with your parents/players that the Nominated SMS number is correct and the best one to send messages to. If you are told a different one, please also let the Club Registrar know so we can update our system.

### **12.1.2 GAME PROCESS**

If we have had a week of rain, we will usually receive notification fields have been withdrawn from Wednesday onwards of that week. The club registrar will be sent an email from the QCSA Fixture Officer. The club registrar will then forward this email onto the coach and manager of the team affected so they can notify the parents/players.

The list of withdrawn fields will also be put on the QCSA website Home Page and Facebook Page. From Wednesday onwards of a wet week, check [www.qcsa.org.au](http://www.qcsa.org.au) regularly.

Clubs must give the QCSA notice by 3.00pm for Friday games and by 6.30am for Saturday games. If we have rain on Friday during the day and overnight, one of the committee members will be checking the fields to make the decision if they need to be withdrawn. If fields are withdrawn at these times, you will be sent an SMS message from club registrar, and the club will also send SMS messages via the website, especially for Saturday games. There are times where the travel time is over an hour to get to games, so messages need to be sent urgently.

If it's raining on a Saturday morning, it's a good thing to be checking the QCSA website for updates on game cancellations. This is normally updated at 6.30am if there is a cancellation of games. So coaches, managers and parents of teams who have early games on Saturdays, need to be checking the QCSA website from that time as well. It pays for everyone to be vigilant when the weather is wet in checking the QCSA website.

Parents, please make sure that your team coach and manager have your correct mobile number. If you have not supplied a Nominated SMS number or it is incorrect, you will miss out on important messages.

*Coaches and Managers*, if when you initially contacted your teams via email and you had any bounce back as undelivered and you got the correct email address from the person concerned, can you please let the Club Registrar know that email address. This will assist us in keeping our database up to date and correct.

It is the QCSA's intention that all games are played on the day, even if they have to be moved to other fields, but if there are a high percentage of fields withdrawn the QCSA will cancel all games.

**On these types of days, in particular, NO ONE, except club secretary or registrar is to contact the QCSA Fixture Officer regarding games.** Even if the answer is known, it won't be given. If time permits, the QCSA Fixture Officer will contact the club if there is any issue with their games, if it is a tight time frame, the QCSA Fixture Officer will go to the team directly and let them know what is happening.

## 13.0 Game Day Information

### 13.1 MATCH DURATIONS

Following is an extract from the By-Laws for game duration, ball sizes & location of corner kicks.

AGE GROUP	MATCH	EXTRA	HALF-TIME	BALL SIZE	CORNERS
Premier League	45 + 45	15 + 15	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Senior Men	45 + 45	15 + 15	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
>30's Men	45 + 45	15 + 15	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
>40's Men	30 + 30	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Senior Women	35 + 35	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
>30's Women	30 + 30	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Junior Colts	40 + 40	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Junior Women	35 + 35	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Under 15	35 + 35	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Under 14	30 + 30	10 + 10	10 mins	5	Corner Flag
Junior Girls	30 + 30	10 + 10	10 mins	4	Corner Flag
Under 13	30 + 30	10 + 10	10 mins	4	Corner Flag
Under 12	25 + 25	10 + 10	5 mins	4	Corner Flag
Under 11	25 + 25	10 + 10	5 mins	4	5 yards out from Penalty Corner Spot
Under 10	20 + 20	5 + 5	5 mins	4	5 yards out from Penalty Corner Spot
Under 9	20 + 20	5 + 5	5 mins	4	5 yards out from Penalty Corner Spot
Under 8	20 + 20	5 + 5	5 mins	3	5 yards out from Penalty Corner Spot
Under 7	15 + 15	5 + 5	5 mins	3	5 yards out from Penalty Corner Spot

### 13.2 SPECTATOR RULES AT WEEDON STREET SOCCER FIELD

For All Games at Weedon Street Soccer Field, spectators are **not** allowed inside the fence line when matches are in progress. This is a QCSA and QCSRA Directive. Please inform family and friends you bring along to games and make the opposition spectators aware of the Directive as well if need be.

### 13.3 TECHNICAL AREA

At the soccer fields, there is a Technical area at the side of the field where the coach and substitute players are required to stay during games. **Spectators are not allowed in this area.** The Vested Official will approach you to move if you enter this area.

For Senior players, please pass this onto the spectators that come to your games with you. Also, please respect the Coach of your team. Do not approach him or her during the game or at half time unless it is urgent. If the coach would like your input, he or she will ask for it.

At half time, the coach will want to speak with the players. Some coaches may want to do this away from parents and spectators. Find out what your coach would prefer and respect this. If you wish to speak with the coach, do so after the game is over or at another convenient time.

## **14.0 Borrowing Players - Competition**

Borrowed players participating in matches are not required to have their player ID number recorded on the Match Card, however, it is preferable. They must however have their registered age group and division listed against their name in the appropriate column on the Match Card. In the instance that a club has more than 1 team in a particular division. Players in those teams, once placed, may NOT interchange between the teams.

Registered Junior competition players (Under 9 –Under 15/16) may be borrowed to play in higher divisions and age groups, but may only do so for a maximum of 5 matches within any junior competitions. The maximum number refers to the total number of games played up and not to each team they may play in. However, when they play their 5th borrowed match, they are automatically transferred into that team by QCSA. They cannot then play for any other team for the remainder of the fixture season. Juniors may only play up a maximum of two years from their correct age (not necessarily from their age group).

Registered Senior competition players (Under 17/18 and upwards) may be borrowed to play in higher divisions and age groups, but may only do so for a maximum of 6 matches within any Senior or Overage competitions.

The maximum number refers to the total number of games played up and not to each team they may play in. However, when they play their 6th borrowed match, they are automatically transferred into that team by QCSA. They cannot then play for any other team for the remainder of the fixture season.

Over-aged teams may borrow players from higher senior division teams as long as they are of correct age. This rule does not apply to the last five (5) weeks of fixtures. A team playing in a fixture shall be permitted to borrow players from a lower division in that particular age group, or a lower division in a lower age group (e.g. an U13 Div 3 team can borrow from an U13 Div 4 or Under 12 and lower team; or for seniors, Senior Men Div 1 is the highest division, followed by the Over 30 age group and the Over 40 competition is considered to be the lowest division.

You cannot borrow across the same division, i.e. if you have 2 teams in Under 13 Div 2 (green and red), the green team cannot borrow from the red team and vice versa. Players cannot be borrowed between gender specific teams.

All borrowed players must be noted on the match card as where they are borrowed from. If they are not, first offence will be a warning and a fine. Any subsequent offences will be deemed an ineligible player and the points stripped as per By Law Playing an Unqualified Player.

You can still borrow from lower divisions right through to and including the Grand Final. Your club will receive email notification when a player has reached 4 or 5 borrowed games (junior and senior respectively).

You need to ensure that the manager of the team, as well as the players themselves, keep a track of how many games they have been borrowed.

## **15.0 Player Participation**

Each team has more players than are required on the field during a match. This is to cover for absence of players due to illness, injuries, holidays etc.

Teams are always made up of individuals with varying skill levels and one of the challenges facing coaches is developing strategies to ensure they accommodate this. It is a very important role of coaches to work with less skilful players to help them improve and improve the competitiveness of their team.

Parents and players should advise their coach or manager if they are unable to attend any training session and give as much notice as possible if they are unable to attend a game.

Lots of planning is required by coaches and managers to ensure equal game time, on aggregate, throughout the season, occurs for all players. They will generally develop an interchange schedule and parents are requested to respect the time & effort the coach & manager put into running the team at training and games.

The whole team should endeavour to arrive at the match venue at 45 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time of the game. This is to allow time for pre-match instruction, warm-up exercises, filling in of match cards and possible transport problems. In wet weather, allow extra time for travelling. An incentive for players who are continually late for games is for players who arrive last to always be the first reserves.

## **16.0 Training Information**

Training days, times & field allocations will be set by the Club Registrar in consultation with team coaches.

There is an expectation that parents will remain at training, especially for the younger age groups, U7 to U9. If you cannot be at training, please make sure you have organised another parent who stays at training to be responsible for your child/ren, including transport when needed.

Coaches will stay behind and wait until all children are picked up, but we respectfully ask you don't make a habit of this. Our coaches are volunteers and have busy lives outside of their role as coach.

If you are going to be late, make sure you have notified the coach or organise another parent to take your child/ren home.

## **17.0 Player Injuries**

If your child/player unfortunately suffers an injury whilst on the field, please allow the officials of the game to do what they need to ascertain the extent of the injury and what needs to happen from then on. When required, the Referee will ask for the coach and manager/vested official to enter the field of play to assist with taking the player off the field.

Everyone will be working to make sure the player is safe and is attended to appropriately. You will be completely informed and allowed to be with your child/the player as soon as possible. We have ice packs in the freezer at COC soccer field canteen when required. There are also disposable, once use only, ice packs in first aid kits to use when there isn't any ice packs or ice available.

With over 250 players competing every Saturday it is an inescapable fact that some serious injuries will occur over the season, which require urgent medical attention. Such attention may be obtained by taking the player to a local doctor's surgery or a hospital by car. For more serious injuries an ambulance should be called.

Before the season commences parents and senior players as part of their registration acknowledge that they fully understand the benefits they are eligible to receive under the insurance policy provided for players, managers and coaches. To view QCSA insurance policy, please go to [www.qcsa.org.au](http://www.qcsa.org.au) / Information Tab/ Insurance

Please inform your team manager of the outcome of any doctor or hospital visits after an injury sustained at training or a game.

At the beginning of the season parents should be advised that they need to have a contingency plan for what action to take should a serious injury occur.



## 18.0 Refund Policy

If you decide to withdraw please notify the Club as soon as possible. Refund of fees will be made on the following basis:

Players withdrawing from membership	
Prior to first game	Full refund of fees less \$30 administration charge
Prior to the completion of the third round of matches:	80% refund of fees less \$30 administration charge
Prior to the completion of the sixth round of matches:	60% refund of fees less \$30 administration charge
After the completion of the sixth round:	No refund

Any application of refunds that are outside of this policy will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Mansfield Eagles Committee.

## 19.0 Child Protection and Photographing Players

Due to changing child safety and welfare legislations, the taking of photographs and video footage of our children requires monitoring. It is suggested that the manager of each team inform their parents of the need for this consideration and if there are parents who intend to take photographic footage during any game the team manager would communicate with the opposition team's manager, as a courtesy prior to the start of the match, to enquire if anyone had objections.

We believe this is a reasonable position to initiate within our club in order to maintain balance and responsible parenting. For more information about child safety issues please visit the Queensland Governments Child Protection website [www.childcomm.qld.gov.au](http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au).

## 20.0 Finals and Other Final Competitions

Every Senior age group (U9s to Over 40s) has a finals competition whereby the top 4 teams from each division play off in the Championship Competition in accordance with QCSA By-Laws 11.1 to 11.3 inclusive.

Please contact the Club Committee if you have any queries about the structure of the finals competitions, or refer to the QCSA web site for full details.

## 21.0 Discipline and Behaviour Policy

### 21.1 Referees

Referees are not to be subjected to abuse of any kind and should not be approached by parents during or after a match. Any queries about a referee should be directed to the vested official who may address any concerns with the Referee after the game.

### 21.2 Cautions and Offences

#### Reasons for Cautions and Send Offs:

- Dangerous play.
- Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game.
- Delaying the restart of play.
- Failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner.

- Kick, free kick or throw-in.
- Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission.
- Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.
- Unsporting behaviour.
- Dissent by word or action.
- Delaying the restart of play.

### **Sending-Off Offences**

- Serious foul play.
- Violent conduct.
- Spitting at an opponent or any other person.
- Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area).
- Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.
- Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (Using the name of Jesus as a swear word can be seen as offensive language in QCSA).
- Receiving a second caution in the same match.

Please also make yourself familiar with the Junior Sport Codes of Behaviour.

<http://www.mesc.org.au/content/codes-behaviour>

and

Child Protection and Safety information found

[www.qcsa.org.au](http://www.qcsa.org.au) / information / Child Protection and Safety Information

### **21.3 Authority of Coaches, Managers & Vested Officials:**

Coaches have the authority to exclude players from training activities in response to inappropriate behaviour. Coaches may remove players from the field of play during games in response to inappropriate behaviour from the player or the player's parent.

In addition, coaches may 'bench' players when they consistently, without prior notice:

- show up late or miss training; or
- show up late for matches.

### **21.4 Formal Reporting Process and Consequences:**

Significant or continuous instances of inappropriate behaviour (from members of this club or opposing clubs) should be reported to the Club Secretary (secretary@mesc.org.au) in writing giving a full description of the incident/behaviour, which will be considered by the Club's Committee.

A member of the Committee may make inquiries of the persons involved.

The Committee may, if the complaint is proven, take disciplinary action including:

- in the case of a first offence the Committee may issue a formal warning to the person/s concerned;
- in the case of a second offence the Committee may suspend the person/s involved from participating in football for up to two weeks;
- in the case of a third offence the Committee may withdraw membership from the person/s concerned; or
- in the case of an incident involving physical abuse the Committee may, on a first report, take any of the actions above including a possible withdrawal of membership.

Reports can be made by coaches, managers or parents but they must be in writing and should be signed by at least two parents from different families.

## **22.0 End of Season**

The Under 7 and Under 8 teams finish the season with a carnival against local clubs. On the Sunday immediately after the grand final, we hold awards day for the junior club.

## **23.0 Reference Websites**

- Mansfield Eagles Soccer Club: [www.mesc.org.au](http://www.mesc.org.au)
- Queensland Christian Soccer Association: [www.qcsa.org.au](http://www.qcsa.org.au)
- Queensland Football (State FFA): [www.footballqueensland.com.au](http://www.footballqueensland.com.au)
- Football Federation of Australia: [www.footballaustralia.com.au](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au)
- FIFA: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com)
- Junior Sport – Codes of Behaviour