



Lockleys Football Club 2023 Junior Handbook

Registrations

- Registrations open on 1st November 2022 to all returning players.
- Registrations open to new players from 5 January 2023.
- Returning players are encouraged to register by the due date to reserve their place in the team.
- If there are reason that prevent this, please email teams@lockleysfc.com.au

Age Group Eligibility

The SANFL determines that age group eligibility is based on calendar year basis. As a club we follow these age group eligibilities, and it is the **LFC Junior Football Club policy that all players play in their correct age group**. There is a possibility for exemption in this but such exemption is only granted in conjunction with the club and with club request to SANFL.

The LFC provides opportunities for children to play football between the ages of 6 and 17.5
In accordance with SANFL Policy, players must be:

All players will be placed in their correct age group at the time of registration no matter in what age group they played in the previous season – any changes to this needs to be approved by the LFC Coaching Committee. This will not take place until final team nominations have been submitted end of March.

There is criteria around a child playing up, including age & ability. If by chance a child does play up in one season, it is only for that season and will return to their correct age group the following year. It is also club policy that no child will continue playing up past under 11s (once they go to full field). It is also noted that if the team above has the maximum squad size, the younger child automatically is placed in their correct age group. We will also not hold spots for children to play up as part of the squad for the following year. All playing up requests are to be sent to the Junior President for assessment with conjunction with the Coaching Coordinator.

Season Information

All information for the season and game days is hosted by SANFL Juniors on PlayHQ.

Coaches & Team Managers

All Coaches, Team Managers and Committee members are volunteers.

All Coaches have a minimum Level 1 AFL coaching accreditation and to comply with the rules of the SANFL.

Coaches, Team Managers and other support staff must have undertaken a current DHS Working with Children Check and Play By The Rules Child Protection Certification.

Training

Training commencement dates are at the discretion of the Coach.

Training times and oval allocation will be shared as available.

If you need to leave your child, it is your responsibility to ensure a responsible person has agreed to look after them in your absence. LFC is a family club and our coaches and volunteers are here to give all children a good football experience but cannot be responsible for children outside of their involvement in training or game day.

Parent Involvement

We invite and encourage all parents to participate and share the experiences of football activities with their children. Involvement within other aspects of the club is also welcomed. Parent membership is encouraged and is vital for the operational success of the club.

You can help by:

- **Setting up the field before training.**
You can be of great help by arriving 30 minutes early to offer assistance.
- **Help assist coaches with drills during training**
- **Assist with Fundraising activities**

The assistance by parents is welcome at LFC. Please speak to your team manager and or coach to see what you can assist with.

The club runs on volunteers.

You will also be rostered on for duties such as bar duties, support at events and game day roles. Your Team Manager will co-ordinate this aspect.

Game Day Uniform

Guernsey's - LFC Junior players will be provided a LFC Guernsey before the start of the season. These are to be worn for games only.

All guernseys remain the property of the LFC and must be returned at the end of each season.

Team Managers will keep any up-to-date spreadsheet of tops handed out.

Parents/caregivers are responsible for the reimbursement cost of lost or damaged guernseys. Please do not make any alterations to the guernseys ie. taking up hems.

Under 8 – Under 17.5 players will require the following additional compulsory uniform items:

- Blue SANFL logo shorts for home games.
- White SANFL logo shorts for away games (may not be required for female players in 2023)
- Red SANFL Logo socks for all games;
- Under 11s Up - Reversible Training top (order portal will open Mid Feb)

Mouth guards for use at training and during games – **No Mouth guard – No Play**

Compression shorts can be worn under SANFL shorts for games.

Jewellery

The SANFL has a no jewellery policy for player safety. Players are to remove all items including watches, piercings and jewellery. If the jewellery cannot be removed, please ensure you bring some tape (or sweat band) to cover it and ensure it remains covered for the entire match.

Footwear

Players are only allowed to play with football boots with moulded studs. No screw in or metal studs are allowed.

Please remember No Boots are to be worn inside the clubrooms.

Boots, Socks & Shorts box

If you have boots, shorts or socks in good condition that you no longer need, please consider donating to your club. The club will make these available to other families. We have also set up a Facebook group – Juniors Buy, swap, sell . [\(2\) Juniors Buy, Swap & Sell | Facebook](#)

Lost Property

Lost property is often collected by Team Managers and Coaches at trainings and games. If you are searching for an item in particular, first check with your team contacts, then have a look in the lost property box at

Communication

Communication is key to the running of the LFC and particularly the junior teams. Our platforms are

- Website – [Link here](#)
- Facebook – [Link here](#)
- Email Updates

Please make sure you clearly label your child's uniform and property.

LFC Merchandise

A wide range of LFC apparel and accessories is available.

Player Commitment and Expectations

All players at LFC are required to acknowledge and accept a playing code of conduct from the club and SANFL. A core fundamental of player commitment is an expectation on training attendance, behavior, games, and injury management. We encourage coaches to ensure that players are meeting their expected commitment levels as these requirements differ across age groups. If you know in advance of days, you will not be able to play or train please advise your coach so they can roster you off on those days.

Even if you are rostered off players are asked to attend the match and bring their playing gear, as sickness or injury may result in a position becoming available before the start of the game. If you are rostered off, your presence to support your teammates will be appreciated. Also, you may be able to help carrying water or on score board, these roles are required every week and your support is valued.

To ensure that everyone can get the most out of our games, we expect the following of our players:

- Always play with integrity and according to the rules of the game.
- Show respect to our club (our equipment, our facilities, our values), to our community (our coaches, teammates, and members) and to yourself (know that you are welcome and valued).
- Respect the umpire's decision. Never question calls or argue with an official.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship – respect the opposition, control your temper, shake hands at the end of the game, applaud good play on both sides and be a positive influence.
- Be a good team player – co-operate with your coach and teammates, arrive on time, attend all trainings, participate fully, always bring your A-game and have a good attitude.
- Show appreciation towards volunteer coaches, managers, and administrators.
- Do not get drawn in to negative play, stay focused on your influence on the game and let your actions speak for themselves.
- Respect your teammates – no single player makes a team.
- Attempts to bully, harass, cause physical harm, verbally abuse, degrade, exclude, or belittle have no place in our club, our community or our game and will not be tolerated.

The club has several Junior Policies that are available to all families and players via the club's website. In addition, the SANFL has strict Code of Conduct policies for players who are registered to play in the SANFL Juniors competition. We ask that all families and players familiarise themselves with the policies linked. Codes of conduct can be found [here](#)

Families and Supporters Expectations

We also have codes of behavior that need to be adhered to for the Families & Supporters. We expect our players to operate in a team environment and we expect no less from our supporters. Our junior club is supported by many individuals who volunteer their time to support our kids. A small contribution from everyone reduces the load and results in a more sustainable club structure.

It is the Lockleys FC expectation that Families and Supporters:

- Remember that children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children's participation, do not force it.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules of the game.
- Let their child focus on developing skills, playing the game, and doing their best - take the emphasis away from winning.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the game. Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, aggressive or abusive language or behavior.
- Let the coaches do their jobs and do not confuse the players by giving them different instructions to those of the coaches.
- Never ridicule, yell at or demean a child for making a mistake or for the team result.
- Show appreciation and respect towards coaches, umpires, officials, and administrators.
- Respect the umpire's decision, never question their calls, and teach children to do likewise.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Do not enter the field of play during a game unless prompted by a match official.
- Follow reasonable directions of Ground Officials.

In registering their child to play at the LFC, parents and guardians are confirming their awareness that if they do not follow the Code, any/all the following actions may be taken by the Club or competition administrator.

Parents/Supporters may:

- Be required to apologise to parents, the other team, and the umpire.
- Receive a formal warning from the Club.
- Be suspended from attending matches.
- Have their child's registration cancelled and they will not be provided a refund.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The Club does not condone any negative or grievance-based content being posted on either the Club social channels, or team social channels.

Should the Club identify what is considered inappropriate comments these will be moved and the person who posted contacted and asked to express their grievance to the Committee via teams@lockleysfc.com.au

GRIEVANCES & DISPUTE RESOLUTIONS:

Please refer to the Club grievance process to raise any matters.

Coaches and Team Managers are volunteers and should not be contacted for lengthy discussions outside of training times, unless an agreed appointment time has been made.

Please respect their time as volunteers.

We encourage all children U12 up to raise any concerns with the Coaches directly, just as they would at school.

Our policy is to encourage and provide all players time with development at training and game day.

However, when a team is playing in finals, selections will be biased towards those players who are more capable of playing finals football.

Team selection, personnel conflicts, club concerns are to be directed to teams@lockleysfc.com.au – this email reaches the Committee, who will review the matter raised and communicate directly with the affected parties.

PLEASE NOTE – APPROACHING SANFL

Parents, supporters and players are NOT to approach the SANFL directly without first approaching the Club to have any matters or issues settled at a local level. Direct contact with SANFL Juniors can result in club penalties and sanctions.