



WELCOME



**Bayside Council**  
Serving Our Community



**FOOTBALL  
ST GEORGE**



# Rockdale City Raiders FC

## “The club for families”

### Welcome to 2024



Founded 1956

### Presidents Message

As our 68<sup>th</sup> year opens I am pleased to welcome all returning players, coaches , managers, mums Dads , Grandparents and of course all our Fur Babies !

***A special welcome to all our new players and parents.***

Our new facilities’ have proved a huge lift and gives us a great advantage – we play & train Rain, Hail or Shine ! We are proud to be a “grassroot community focused club “ while we try our hardest, winning is not as important and learning , mixing with friends and enjoying your time .

*“Improve your Skills - Have fun -  
Become a better person ”*

***Not everything will go perfectly*** but we try our very best and based on feedback and the number of people who return year after year we do pretty well .

This booklet is designed to answer common Questions. If you have questions please talk to your coach , manager or call me Raider Ron 0408 648 620



## *Who are Rockdale City Raiders FC -the Raider Family as we refer to it !*

**Your local family-based club started in 1956.** Our founders including Jim Graham and Don Marshall helped build the original pitch & amenities which served us so well & now we have amazing new facilities which represent the next chapter for Rockdale Raiders.

Teams have won many championships including Champion of Champions & Premier Leagues. More importantly we have several people still involved after 40 years, an increasing number of Grand Children and we are striving to **increase our female participation.**

*We have teams from 5's right through to All Age, Over 35's & hopefully a ladies' team !*



## *Is anyone paid?*

**None of our Committee , Coaches or Managers are paid .** This Volunteering spirit is at the heart of the Raiders philosophy.

At times we may engage selected specialist qualified people to help grow our peoples and players skills.

## *How are we funded?*

**Rego fees are our main source.** We have been helped by grants from **Bayside Council & NSW Government.**



**We are also very grateful to our sponsors being Brighton RSL , Banksia Hotel and IFA Private Wealth Advisors**

## *What are our main expenses?*

**Fees payable to Football St George (FSG), Football NSW and Football Aust take over 50% of your Rego fees.** Then we pay ground rental, ground upkeep, uniforms, playing gear, training equipment, balls, referee fees, trophies, etc.



## *What teams will the Raiders have this year?*

At least a number of teams from **5yrs -16yrs, All Age , PLUS hopefully a Ladies' team.** We are very keen to continue **increasing Girls Only teams** in 2024 again !

We also closely align with Sydney FC and enjoy regular invitations to their home games as mascots and ½ times games

## *Registration – It's EASY !!!*

**How do I register :** All registrations are done online. **Go to our Website [rockdalecityraiders.com.au](http://rockdalecityraiders.com.au).** follow the link and you find all the details, including Rego fees.

Payments must be made online. **Any problems speak to Gerald 0417-2407830.**

**NOTE:** for insurance reasons, you must be registered & paid to play practice/trial games

## *Can I use the Active Kids Voucher - YES if still Available*



**YES** – totally, during the registration process you will be asked for the Active Kids Voucher number, once applied it will reduce your fee.

Make sure you have your Active Kids Voucher ready before you register. If you are not sure where to get it you will find the link on our [Join Our Club page](#).

## *New to Football or St George Assoc (FSG) ?*

If you never played with any team from the FSG area (Naturally this mean all 1<sup>st</sup> timer younger players) you will be required to **provide proof of age documentation such as a photo of either your child's passport or birth certificate**. This must be provided ASAP as your registration will not be considered complete and can be emailed to [registrar@rockdalecityraiders.com.au](mailto:registrar@rockdalecityraiders.com.au).

**Note:** Applies to players under age 18 and players that will be playing in the over 35+

### *Registration refunds*

We may provide a refund of money paid to Rockdale City Raiders **excluding Active Kids Vouchers (a)** where a player changes their minds about playing or we are unable to find a suitable team. The amount of refund will depend upon time of Deregistration being :

- If before team registered ( end Feb ) – Full Refund
- After Registration but before June 30<sup>th</sup> - Less Fees retained by FSG / FNSW / FA (this usually occurs if deregister after April 1<sup>st</sup>)
- After June 30<sup>th</sup> - no refund



NB Subject to special circumstances and subject to Management Committee approval

### *Active Kids Voucher refunds*

By law, we are not allowed to refund the Active Kids Voucher money back to parents. However, if your child joins another provider that takes the AKV, we can transfer the money to them directly. Please ask the

service provider to email us their bank account details for the money transfer.

**Note:** any transfer of money can only happen after your child has deregistered completely.

## Deregistration Process

For a player to get their refund the following process must be completed:

1. The player de-registers from the club via the PlayFootball website
2. Club must approve the de-registration request and that will be automatically forwarded to the FSG.
3. The FSG approves the request
4. Once the above steps are completed the player provides their bank details for money transfer.

### *When does the season start?*

Practice games will be held during March. Season proper runs from early April – late Aug (Maybe Sept if in Finals )

## Training – Practice

### **When and where do we train?**

Most teams usually train once per week . Training is at our home ground either on the All Weather pitch or across the canal on Baddock Field our purpose built Mini Roos field next to Adventure Playground.

For **Mini Roos**, the day & time of the week for training is discussed and agreed between the coach and parents. Usually when your child is allocated to a team.

**Competition teams** – your coach will notify you of your date/time for training as we need to sort out access to the ground

### **What do players wear to training**

Boots, long socks/shin pads, and any top. **DONT wear your new Team Playing Shirt** - they are expensive 7 we seek to use them for 2 years. ***NB Joggers or Runners are fine to commence with especially for the younger teams .***



## IMPORTANT

SHIN PADS **must always be worn at** training and games.

Don't bring phones / Nintendo etc - they will get lost!

## Jewellery / Watches / Rings / Chains

Are not permitted to be worn either at training or games.  
(FIFA worldwide policy)

## What if we can't make training?

Be sure to let your manager or Coach know ASAP, they will tell you what they prefer e.g., Text / Email / What's App etc

## How are teams and games organised

### Our guiding principle when forming teams

- Player welfare must be at forefront of all registration decisions.
- Prefer existing functioning teams remain together especially when the Coach / Mgr. are returning.
- Friends to play together-especially in younger grades however this is subject to: optimum numbers in various teams and being able to play at the team grade.

Existing players have preference over new players **provided they register timely manner** or have notified Age co-ordinator/registrar if there will be a delay in registering  
Registration acceptance will be based on **First In** basis, exceptions are for those who ve notified the age co-ordinator/registrar ahead of time in relation to their delay.

***While we will attempt to accommodate all players's needs there can be no guarantees. We must consider the overall picture to ensure all teams are fairly organised***





### *How are age groups determined ?*

It is determined by age of the players on the 31st of December of the current year e.g for this season 31/12/2024.

**NOTE:** Our policy is players must be at least 5 by 1st July or attending school.

At times some players may play in a higher age group if it suits team numbers and / or it suits parents i.e siblings , play with friends BUT it does depend upon keeping numbers logical in various teams

### *How are teams organised ?*

We have ***Age Co-Ordinator's whose role is to work with Coaches , mangers, and Parents to organise teams .***

#### **Mini Roos (5's-11's)**

Basically organised by age groups. Our guiding principle is to try to keep friends and/or existing teams together. However at times to ensure logical numbers in every team we may need to vary this BUT it will be discussed with parents before players are moved

The Mini Roos are non-Competition i.e no table / no finals / no Catch-up games. The association tries to “roughly grade” teams at the beginning of the season and then some adjustments, based on results, maybe made during the season.



We consult with Coaches and Managers as to the appropriate grade for the various teams to apply for at the beginning of the season.

***Mini Roos also have some modified playing conditions including field sizes , goal size and playing numbers - Full Details are attached.***



## **Competition (12 years and above)**

12 & above play “Competitive football” and usually most players would have been playing together. As per our guiding principles, we will try to keep friends and/or existing teams together however at times skill levels may become a consideration.

## **Do we grade players**

Not generally, especially in the younger age groups. . However, at times and especially as they get older some grading or ability matching may become logical. In particular we will assess new players to see if they can play at the team’s grade. We want your child to be able to comfortably play games.

***Remember : We encourage friends to play together BUT sometimes numbers & skill levels mean we need to move players BUT we will always talk to parents before any such moves.***



## **Team Allocation Appeals**

In special circumstances, parents may want to appeal to have their child moved to another team. All appeals will follow this process:

1. Refer to Age Co-Ordinators who will review any request.
2. If the parent is still not satisfied with the outcome, they can appeal to the President & Registrar. After reviewing all the circumstances they decide and their decision will be final.

## *Who will be our Coach / Manager ?*



Coaches & Managers are usually parents or players who volunteered to help. At times we engage “fully qualified” Coaches to assist coaches and managers. All coaches are encouraged to attend specialised Coach courses. The cost is covered by the club. This help both first timers and more experienced coaches (everyone is welcome to attend).

Remember they are volunteers so please give them the respect they deserve.

***We always need extra Coaches & Managers***

*If you would like to become a Coach Or Manager please do not hesitate to talk to us.*

## *What gear/clothes do I need*

The Club provides your playing shirt. New players will be provided shorts & socks. Existing players can use last year's or buy new socks/shorts for \$20. You need to organise shin pads, even for training, and once we start playing you will need boots.



### **Parent Tip**

don't spend too much on boots, they are not worth it!

**Special Raider Gear :** We will also have the very popular **Raiders Hoodies & Baseball Caps** available.



# Game Day

## *What happens if it rains –*

Raiders new All-Weather Pitch means it is rarely if ever “closed” due to rain – so training / Games will almost always be ON. If games/training is cancelled we try to send updates and **most teams have their own “communications system”** i.e What’s App etc.



**Don’t listen to “rumours” or a friend**

**RULE - if in doubt turn up to play!**

## *When and where do we play?*

Most games are played Sat. Competitive teams 12 – AA may occasionally play Sundays. Games are played within St George area – from Arncliffe to Lugarno. Home games are played at Jim Graham & Baddock Mini Field. Generally Mini Roos/Non-competition games (6-11) will not be played over Easter or School Holidays BUT you will be told in advance.

## *Does everyone get to play in the game?*

ABSOLUTELY - *our policy is every player gets to play every week* BUT at times it can be tricky for Coach to give equal time every week – Understand it balances out over time!

## *What if we can’t make games?*

Be sure to let your Manager or Coach know ASAP - they will tell you what they prefer e.g., Text / Email / What’s App etc

***If you have a problem?*** Talk to your team Manager, Coach or Age Co-Ordinator.

**If the matter relates to a range of personal type issues it may be more applicable to refer to our Member Protection Officer for her attention. Further details on such matter will be provided directly**

*If all else fails call Raider Ron 0408 648 620*

## *How can I help the club?*

***Stay Calm - Respect your Coach , Mangar , Team mates & Especially the REFEREE .***

***Don't get into arguments, Don't abuse people , Don't Question the Ref***

Talk to us! We are always looking for help - you won't be roped into being an "Official" but there are many small things that need doing.

We are always looking for good ideas!



# RAIDERS - Player's and Parents Code of Conduct

These Behavioral Guidelines aim to give everyone a guide to what is expected of them if they are part of Rockdale City Raiders, be it participating, volunteering or standing on the sideline cheering for their child, relative or friend. The guidelines set down what is an acceptable standard of conduct and behavior and reflect the principles upon which Rockdale City Raiders is based. Acceptance of, and compliance with these guidelines will ensure that our players will develop good sporting behaviours and be an enjoyable sporting experience, encouraging them to remain involved in sport and club.

## Players Code of Conduct

1. Show respect to coaches and officials. Any approach to an official should be in a courteous manner. Never argue with an official.
2. Control your temper – no “mouthing off”, throwing equipment etc.
3. Never verbally abuse or sledge other players or deliberately provoke anyone.
4. Do not bully or harm others.
5. Do not use bad language or obscene gestures at any time.
6. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all players and officials, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.



## Parents Code of Conduct

1. Respect the decisions of Match Officials and teach children to do the same;
2. Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake;
3. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, religion, or ethnic origin;
4. Do not use violence in any form, whether it is against other spectators, Team Officials (including coaches), Match Officials or Players;
5. Do not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form, including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting;
6. Keep to designated spectator areas – don't enter the field during/after games