

Ellerslie AFC Inc – Junior/Youth Division

Tamaki League 2020 Key Points

1 **Key Club Contacts**

In an attempt to spread the workload, a number of people have taken on specific tasks for the 2020 season. Please refer to the [Contacts list](#) and contact the appropriate person from the list wherever possible.

2 **League Administration**

The Tamaki League is administered by the Ellerslie Club. Tamaki League competitions will be run for Under 6's to Under 9's grades. All games will be held at Michaels Ave.

3 **Registration of Players**

As we are now required to register all players with New Zealand Football, we **must** be informed of any additions or deletions to your team. All players **MUST** be registered. Use the online registration options from our website. Changes to addresses or contact information should be made by members themselves using the Clubhub on-line database. (Login from the [Ellerslie AFC website](#) and click on "Update Personal Info" on the "My Details" dropdown menu)

4 **Club Gear**

Each year we have a significant amount of gear that goes missing (this costs the Club several thousand dollars each season). It is the manager's responsibility to distribute and then collect the gear for return at the end of the season.

Amongst other things, your team gear bag contains a set of shirts for the team. These are for use on match days only and, as with all other gear, are to be returned (clean) at the end of the season.

Please help us to prolong the life of the shirts by ensuring that your team members do not wear them for training sessions and advise their parents not to add player's names to the shirts in a permanent manner, and not to cut them off to shorten them as has happened on the odd occasion in previous seasons.

If there is a problem with the sizing of the shirts, please contact Kelly (info@ellersliefootball.org.nz) and she will endeavour to allocate a more suitable size from our existing stock. We will do our best with the stock that is available.

If the team coach or manager is advised by any player that they do not plan to play anymore, please request they return their shirt either to you or the club and email Kelly to advise the name of the player who has withdrawn.

5 **Pump and First Aid**

A first aid kit and ice are kept at the Club Hub/Office next to the Artificial Turf and an electric pump (for pumping footballs) is available there every Saturday morning game day from 8am.

In the event of a heart related emergency there is a defibrillator on top of the filing cabinets in the hub office, and if the hub is not open, there is also one situated at the YMCA.

6 **Duration of Season**

As you will be aware, the season was delayed due to the Covid 19 restrictions. The shortened season is now scheduled to start on **Saturday 20th June** and conclude on **Saturday 26th September**. The games will continue each Saturday until the July school holidays when there will be one week off on **Saturday 11th July** (Middle weekend of school holidays).

7 **Fixtures**

Once the draws for the season have been done, you will be able to find the information about your game on the [Northern Regional Football website](#) (NRF)

On the Junior Community Competition Fixtures page, you should select Tamaki Leagues which is included as part of the list under In-House Competitions (U5-U8). Detailed information on how to find the games for each team will be sent by email to the coaches and managers once the draws are available to view.

8 **Cancellations**

- Cancellations will always be noted on the [Northern Regional Football website](#) in the “Competitions” section. They may not necessarily show as “cancellation” but the information for your game will be updated to reflect any changes in time or venue or may also just say “cancelled” but it will be shown as part of your individual game, not usually as a separate message unless there happens to be a bulk cancellation for that particular weekend.
- Following the introduction of the Artificial Turf at Michaels Avenue for most U6 to U8 games, cancellations should be minimal but there may be the odd occasion where we may need to cancel if there is a threat of lightning or the artificial turf has become flooded (we do not cancel games just because it is raining, only if the turf becomes waterlogged and the football will not roll properly). For the Under 9 teams who will mainly be playing on the lower grass fields, your games are subject to the normal cancellations that can occur for grass fields where they have been closed by the council.
- Most cancellations will be known by 6pm on the Friday before the game and will be shown on the NRF website as above, however should there be a need to cancel the games on Saturday morning due to heavy rain overnight for instance, the NRF website will also be updated to reflect those late changes as soon as possible so if in doubt you should check the website before going to the game.

9 **Game Formats**

For 2020 the club will continue to use the [game formats](#) that were introduced in 2012 and phased in over the following years to reflect the recommendations of the New Zealand Football Whole of Football Plan. Refer to Game Format link to obtain information about the following:

- Number of Players per team
- Game Duration
- Pitch Size (recommended - expressed as a fraction of a full-sized field)
- Ball Size
- Goal Size (recommended)
- Goalkeeper Yes/No
- Offsides

The Club will attempt to adhere to these formats as closely as possible.

10 **Grounds** (links show field layouts)

The Tamaki League games for 2019 will be played at Michaels Ave Reserve Artificial Turf [Under 6, Under 7 and Under 8 Grade games](#) , and possibly a few [Under 9 grade games](#) or [Michaels Ave Lower Grass Fields](#) and [its layout](#) for most 9th grade games, being the “home” grounds of Ellerslie, Ellerslie School, Remuera Primary, St Cuthbert’s and St Michael’s Teams; Maps to grounds can be found [here](#)

There are some important points relative to all grounds that should be noted:

- In order to preserve the pitches, spectators **must, at all times** at any ground
 - ❖ stay **outside** the designated boundary where the pitches have boundary fences or ropes;
 - ❖ stand at least 1 metre back from the side lines and do not stand inside the main pitch area;
 - ❖ walk around pitches to get from one to the other and not across fields;
 - ❖ and finally, where full-sized pitches are broken up into smaller pitches, **spectators must remain outside the perimeter of the full-sized pitch.**
 - ❖ **At Michaels Ave Reserve** in particular the [Rules for use of the Michaels Ave Reserve Artificial Turf](#) and Training Area must be abided by at all times when you are using those fields.
- Please vacate fields immediately play has finished - team talks and presentations are to take place **off** the fields.
- Note that car parking, at Ellerslie in particular, is in extremely short supply so ensure you arrive early - teams should be assembled and ready to play at least 5 minutes before their scheduled start time. It may be easier to park on the surrounding side streets and use the pedestrian entrances.

11 **Rules**

The following principles from previous years will apply for Under 6 to Under 8 grades in 2019 and also to the Under 9’s where no specific mention has been made in the [Under 9 grade regulations](#)

- Where team colours clash, the ‘home’ team changes strip (or uses bibs);
- The general rules of football are to be followed taking into account the relevant ages of the players participating. The following specific exemptions are allowed:
 - ❖ Players must drop back to their own third on all goal kicks (or kick ins). The team in possession must start with a pass. On goal kicks, this must be a pass within their own third;
 - ❖ No players can enter the goalkeeping zone. If a player does accidentally and does not touch the ball, no penalty. If a defending player enters the zone and touches the ball a free penalty shot will be awarded. If an attacking player does, a goal kick will be awarded to the defending team. Free kicks to be awarded only for blatant offences;
 - ❖ In order to score a goal, all players on the attacking team must be out of their own defending third. This is to encourage players to move up and not hang back by their goal.
 - ❖ In addition to the rule above, the ball and the person shooting for goal need to be in the same half of the field as the goal they are shooting at in order for the goal to be counted.

- ❖ Instead of throw ins, if the ball goes out of play over the side line, there shall be an indirect kick in to restart play. (i.e. it cannot be kicked directly into the goal from the side line.) It must touch someone from either team before entering the goal for the goal to count towards the score. If a goal is scored without it touching another player, play shall be restarted by a goal kick.
- **Shin guards must be worn** at all times during the game and must be worn **underneath** socks (not on the outside of them). This is a FIFA requirement for player safety.
- In the Under 6's Grade, each team may have a Coach or Supporter on the field at all times to encourage and support their team. However, Coaches should be wearing approved footwear for the artificial turf if they are on the field there or try to stay behind the side-lines of the full-sized field as much as possible if they aren't wearing correct footwear.
- **Coaches are not permitted on the field in the Under 7, Under 8 and Under 9 grades;**
- Coaches in all grades are encouraged to roll-on/roll-off players regularly during the course of the game to give all players equal playing time;
- It is recommended that each team has a designated referee so that Coaches can concentrate solely on Coaching the team. Community referee courses are available so if someone from your team is wanting to complete one, please email Kelly on info@ellersliefootball.org.nz to register your interest.

10 **Timing of Games**

There are Council noise restrictions in place at Michaels Ave Reserve and we are not allowed to have any amplified noise (which includes the use of a hooter to start the games). Teams should keep track of their own time for the games for this season. Please note that there is no stoppage (e.g. retrieving the ball when it goes out of play) or injury time to be added on for any games, so for Under 6 and Under 7 games it is two 13 minute halves, for Under 8's two 20 minute halves and all of those grades have 2 minutes for half time.

When the end time for your game is indicated, please finish up your game as soon as possible and escort the teams from the field for team talks and presentations as outlined previously. There is only a two-minute window between games, so your co-operation with this is appreciated. (E.g. An 8.30am Under 6 game should be finished by 8.58am and then the next game is due to kick off at 9.00am).

Under 9 grade teams your games are two 25 minute halves with five minutes for half time and also no stoppage or injury time. Your games will usually be scheduled to start at 9am and the next game after you will be at 10am so you theoretically have a five minute window between your games, but sometimes the game after you may require the field to be set up differently (e.g. your quarter field game might be followed by a half field game so you should try to make sure that your game has finished with those five minutes to spare in case the goals need to be moved around for the next game).

For all grades, please ensure that if your game starts late, you cut it short if necessary so that you can finish at the scheduled time to ensure that the games after you are not disrupted and can start on time as scheduled. (This is an NRF requirement for all grades so that a game starting late in the morning does not continue to disrupt the game schedule right through until the afternoon as games are quite often scheduled straight after one and another on many of the fields.)

If the club notices any games running over time, we will be asking you to stop your game immediately so that the next game can start.

11 Leagues, Draws, Results and Tables

For 2020, only the Under 8 grade will all have a grading round which will last for five weeks. Teams will be split into three groups for the grading round period and then depending on what results look like, probably into two groups for the last nine weeks of the season based on the results from the grading round. Results will be recorded for the grading round period in order to help determine which teams to group together for the final part of the season. However, please note that results are generally not recorded for the Tamaki League games so once the grading round has finished there will be no need to report any more results for the final part of the season. Under 8 Grade coaches and/or managers will be contacted by email to advise where to send their grading round results.

The Under 6, Under 7 and Under 9 grades do not need to report any results. They will just be having a round robin competition with the teams within their own age grade.

Unfortunately there are an odd number of teams entered in all three of the younger age grades which will therefore mean that one team in each of the Under 6, Under 7 and Under 8 grades will have a bye each week. The Under 9 grade has an even number of teams so they will not need to have a bye.

We must remember at all times that this League is organised for the participation and enjoyment of all participants and all games should be conducted with this over-riding rule in mind - ***Participation and Enjoyment . . .***

