

TĀMAKI LEAGUE COACHES & MANAGERS INFORMATION PACK



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Tāmaki League Coaches and Managers Overview

Thank you for agreeing to coach or manage a team at Ellerslie AFC this year. The Club appreciates your time and dedication to ensuring our kids get on the field this year. Below is all the key information you will need to get through the season.

If you have any questions regarding this information pack please use the key contacts listed below to get in touch with us.

We wish you a successful season!

Tāmaki League Key Dates

KEY DATES	NOTES
Saturday 27th April	First Game (All of Tāmaki League)
Saturday 13th July	No Game (Middle Weekend of School Holidays)
Saturday 21st September	Last Game (All of Tāmaki League)

Key Club Contacts

Please refer to the Contacts list on the [Coaches and Managers Home Page](#) with and contact the appropriate person from the list wherever possible.

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 with the club. Use the online registration options from our website. Changes to addresses or contact information should be made by members themselves using the Friendly Manager on-line database.

Fixture Information

Fixtures for the season can be found on our special [Tāmaki League website here](#).

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.

Results

Results and Tables are not displayed for the Tāmaki League games.

If a grading round is required to be played, coaches and managers of affected grades will be emailed with details on where to send the results.

Game Formats

The game formats can be viewed on the [Coaches and Managers Home Page](#) and contain 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

Pitch Layout and Set Up

All U6 – U8 games are playing on the Michaels Ave Main Turf or Training Turf. All U9 Tāmaki League games are played on the Michaels Avenue lower grass fields.

Teams scheduled for the first and last games of the day (unless otherwise specified) will be required to set up and pack down the fields.

Cones and goals for this will be next to the fields. Please use the communal cones instead of your team cones as they will be left out for the games that follow yours.

Ellerslie AFC staff will be around to help set up the first few weeks and then it will be up to the teams to set up from there. There will be staff floating around in the morning should any issues arise. Please allow enough time in the morning to do this before your game.

Pitch layouts can be found on the [Coaches and Managers Home Page](#).

Please note the following:

- 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 sidelines 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 (especially when using prams as tracks can ruin the grass surface).

Please vacate fields immediately play has finished - team talks and presentations are to take place off the fields.

Car parking on site at Michaels Ave on Saturday mornings is in extremely short supply so ensure you arrive early. We suggest parking on the neighbouring streets.

Rules

The following principles will apply for Under 6's to Under 8's grades in 2024 and also to Under 9's where no specific mention has been made in their own separate regulations found on the [Coaches and Managers Home Page](#)

- Where team colours clash, the 'away' team (team named second in the fixture) uses the bibs as supplied in your team gear bag.
- 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 1/3 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 1/3;
 - 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 1/3. 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; Coaches should be wearing approved footwear for the artificial turf if they are on the field or try to stay behind the sidelines 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's, Under 8's and Under 9's 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.

Timing of Games

Due to Council restrictions on noise, we are not allowed to use a hooter to signify game starts so teams should keep track of their own time for the games for this season.

- **Under 6 & Under 7:** 2 x 13 minute halves (2 minute halftime)
- **Under 8:** 2 x 20 minute halves (2 minute halftime)

Note: 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.

There is only 2 minutes between games so we appreciate you moving off the field quickly once you're game is done to ensure the next game starts on time.

- **Under 9:** 2 x 25 minute halves (5 minute half time)

There is only 5 minutes between games so we appreciate you moving off the field quickly once you're game is done to ensure the next game starts on time.

Teams playing the first game of the morning are encouraged to start a few minutes early if both teams are ready. 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.

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.

Cancellations

Cancellations will be noted on the Tamaki League website.

We are lucky to host our **U6 – U8 games** on the Artificial Turf, so there are very rare times we cancel these games. On the odd occasion of the threat of lightning or the turf is flooded will we cancel.

Under 9 teams mainly play on the lower grass fields, and 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 Tamaki League website as above. However, we always encourage you to check the website on Saturday morning in case there have been changes overnight.

Club Gear

Each year we have a significant amount of gear that goes missing (and this costs the Club several thousand dollars each 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 please advise all team members to not alter their playing shirts in any way (i.e. adding players names or hemming the bottom)

If there is a problem with the sizing of any of your team shirts, please contact Hollie on 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.

Pump & First Aid

A first aid kit and ice will be kept in the First Aid Room of the new building and an electric pump (for pumping footballs) will be available in the lower level of the Clubrooms every Saturday morning game day from 8am.

In the event of a heart related emergency there is a defibrillator in the office and in the YMCA.