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| From your friendly neighbourhood Team Manager  |



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| MFCC | Welcome to the 2023 Football season |

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Maccabi FC Caulfield

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# Welcome

**Dear Parents,**

As your team manager I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you to **Maccabi FC Caulfield**.

For a start my name is ……………………………………………..

My contact details are ………………………………………………

Each player on the team is an essential part of the team and it is our joint responsibility to nurture this in order to build a strong team.

# GOALS

1. **LET THE KIDS HAVE FUN!**

Our mantra is "If you are not having fun then you are doing something wrong".  This is not the professional league. Win or lose is not as important to your or my children as having an enjoyable experience.  If they enjoy it, they will come back next year and want to come to practice and games.  This does not mean we will let everyone goof off.  Nobody likes to lose and it's not fun when you do.  We learn from the loss and become better for it.
2. **DEVELOP A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND TEAMWORK WITHIN THE TEAM.**

This is a wonderful life lesson that the children need to be taught at a young age. We will tell the players to take the responsibility for coming to practice and games on time and ensuring they have all their gear.  We will tell the players to remind their parents about practices and games in order to get their parents and them there on time!

Teamwork is critical to support teammates and learn to work together as a team.  Therefore, we must support our teammates.

1. **MAKE FRIENDS.**

We should all encourage bonding between players, coaches, team managers and families. This is a particularly good opportunity for both players and parents to make new friends.

# EXPECTATIONS FOR PLAYERS

1. **HAVE FUN!!!**
2. Come to practice and games on time, with all your equipment, and be prepared to play.  Please try and not be late as this lets the other team players down and can be disruptive**.**
3. Support your teammates.  Some kids are more skilled and developed than others.  Stronger players should encourage the weaker players and help them improve. **Please do not criticise your team mates, cheer them on instead!**
4. Respect your coaches and team managers.  Sometimes, a coach might tell you something you don't like.  However, put the team ahead of yourself.  Disruptive or disrespectful behaviour **will not be tolerated.**
5. **Respect the other team.**  Not cheering when the other team makes a mistake is good sportsmanship. Cheering when the other team makes a great play is good.
6. **TRY YOUR HARDEST.**  Everyone can't be the goal keeper.  If you are in a position you don't like, do your best because the team is counting on you.  Think of the team first and how you can help us win and have fun.

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# EXPECTATIONS FOR THE PARENTS

1. **HAVE FUN!!!**
2. Have realistic expectations for your child.  Not all Players are going to be the offensive player.  You might disagree with where your child is playing.  The coach’s job is to place a child where they feel he or she can best succeed and help the team as well as learn and have fun.
3. **SUPPORT YOUR KIDS.  BE AT THE GAMES FOR THEM.  CHEER THEM ON, AND HAVE A GOOD TIME.**
4. **PLEASE TRY AND NOT BE LATE.**  Make sure your child arrives to training and games on time.  Make sure your child has their equipment before you leave the house. Get it all ready the night before.
5. **LET THE COACHES COACH.**There is nothing more confusing to a child than to have their coach tell him one thing and their parent tell them another.  This is your time to sit back and be a cheerleader for the team and your child.
6. **Support the coach, team managers and children** as we are going to be together for the entire season and quite possibly a number of years.  We are all working toward the same goal.
7. **ACT LIKE AN ADULT!**  Remember, this is only a game.  Don't take it too seriously.  No young child has ever signed a professional contract.  Do not argue or make negative comments to other parents, coaches, or officials.  Especially in front of the children.  It is embarrassing to the players and only makes them hate the game.  The game is for the **kids**, not us.
8. If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with the coach or me, please try to do it before or after practice in a private setting.  It is my experience that nothing productive comes from discussing issues during the training sessions.
9. The team's success is determined by the involvement of everyone to make our kid’s experience a **positive one**.  If asked to help during games or practice, please try to support us or even offer to help without being asked.  **Be a good role model & a good sport**.
10. Play football with your child whenever you can and most importantly, **HAVE FUN**
11. We have a great group of parents this year, but I am informed that parental violence can be a problem sometimes.  I’m sure you’ll agree that **ANY VIOLENCE, THREATS OF VIOLENCE, INTIMIDATION, OR ANY OTHER THREATENING BEHAVIOR** toward any player, member of the coaching staff, team managers will not be tolerated in any form.  Such occurrences are grounds for immediate dismissal from the team and club.

# MFCC GOALS FOR YOU

1. We will have fun!!!
2. We will treat your child with fairness and respect at all times.
3. We want to make this a positive experience for all.
4. We will never degrade or disrespect your child.
5. We will constructively correct behaviour that we feel is inappropriate.
6. We will praise good play or effort.
7. We will not allow players to pick on their teammates.
8. We will not use profanity.
9. We will teach basic football concepts and not emphasize the need to win at all costs.  However, we will teach that it's better to win through hard work.
10. We will keep you informed about all issues as soon as we are given the information from the club and try to keep everyone informed.

# MFCC BASIC FOOTBALL PHILOSOPHY

Winning is the purpose of football but it is the manner and importance that differ. We focus on:

·         Development rather than results

·         The skilful instead of the powerful

·         Mistakes being learning moments instead of mistakes being punished

·         Encouraging individual play instead of forbidding individual play

·         Encouraging taking initiatives / risks instead of forbidding taking initiatives / risks

·         Playing out purposefully instead of the long ball.

# POSITION ASSIGNMENTS

We aware that there will be some skill level differences on the team.  Position placement is a coaching decision.  It is not up for debate.

# EQUIPMENT TO HAVE

You will need to have the items below at all practices and games.  Don't forget them.

1. Soccer boots.
2. Shin Guards.
3. Club uniform.
4. Water bottle.

# HELP!

## PARENT ROSTERS

It is important for parents to be involved in their child's team so we will be composing a roster of duties (for oranges, putting up and taking down of nets, photographer, Linesman Duty, Referee and flag helpers, etc).

It is your responsibility to put the roster in your calendars for your allocated duty and date. If you are unable to attend to your scheduled duty or if your child is not rostered on to play that week, it is your responsibility to email the group and alternate with another parent and ALSO notify the Team Manager of the roster change. Please give other parents enough notice if you need to swap.

We ask that you just check your e-mail once per day so that you can catch anything important within 24 hours.

We anticipate a wonderful and fun season

# OTHER INFORMATION

## PUTTING UP AND/ OR TAKING DOWN OF GOALS AND NETS

If your team is the first team on a particular home ground that day then you will be required, by the club, to put goals and/or nets up.

If your team is the last on a particular home ground that day then you will be required, by the club, to take goal and/or nets down.

This information (whether you are require to put up or take down the goals and or nets) will be emailed to you during the week prior to the game. Make sure to make your team’s parents aware of this important duty. If the goals and nets are not ready in time for the start of the game, then the referee has the right to call off the game and award a 0 – 3 loss to your team.

## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Your child will be required to wear their Maccabi uniforms (available at Sportsmart if you have not already purchased them). Maccabi has advised that your child will not be permitted to play if they do not have the correct uniform.

The blue (home) shirt will always be the first choice shirt for games, even for away games. Use the orange (away) shirt if the blue shirt clashes with the opposition shirt. The orange (away) shirt should be worn when playing an away game to another MFCC team

As a parent, you will need to remind players’ to bring their away shirt to every away game in case the away shirt is required.

**Orange** shirts **should** be used for training nights.

To avoid any confusion, it is strongly advised that both shirts are taken to away games to avoid any clashes with your opposition team. It will be your coaches call which colour to wear on the day.

The uniform requirements are 1 x Maccabi shirt (either home - BLUE, or away - ORANGE, depending on location of game), 1 x black shorts, 1 x black socks, 1 black jacket, 1 black bag and shin guards. Skins are optional but should not be visible unless they are of the same colour - Otherwise your child will be given a yellow card and will not be permitted to play. Your child is also required to bring a labelled drink bottle filled with water to every game.

## TRAINING ARRIVAL/PICK UP TIMES

It is very important that your child arrives to training ON TIME, just prior to the allocated time and also picked up on time. The coach is not responsible for any child after training. Please bring a labelled drink bottle with water for your child during training and also for games as previously mentioned.

\*\*Shin Guards are also required to be worn during training however no uniform is required unless there is a friendly match. Orange shirts can be worn to training too, but NOT blue shirts.

## TRAINING/GAME ATTENDANCE

If your child cannot attend training or a game, please let us know. Email is preferred or text if it is late notice. Please do this as soon as you are aware of this. This is very important we need to know how many players we will/will not have for training AND for games.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For security purpose, we ask all parents and players to keep their bags and training kit in one area by the field. At any given home match, we ask that you be aware of your surroundings and if there are any possible threats around you. If you have concerns first alert your Game Marshal if that matter cannot be solved you may have to call the club and/or the police. Or contact Community Security Group **(CSG)** on **1300 000 274**

## GAME ARRIVAL

For games - Please ensure your child is at the field 30 minutes prior to the game starting. This is very important for warming up. Some 'away' games are quite far (Boronia, Croydon, etc) so please go to ['Google Maps'](https://maps.google.com.au/maps?hl=en) to check the duration of the trip from your home. Also make use of the Maccabi app for your mobile phone for game information.

## WEEKLY EMAILS

Every week we will be sending you an email regarding the game times and venues and any other important information that you need to know. However please regularly check the Facebook page and MFCC Website - As some general information may not be sent to us Team Managers directly.

## CONTACT LIST (PERMISSION TO DISTRIBUTE)

I will be emailing our team (only) a copy of the contact list with names, address, telephone numbers and email addresses. This is normal practice (in case you want to organise rosters for games, etc), however if you have an issue with your contact details being distributed to other parents, please let us know by the end of March.

**RED CARD OFFENCES**

Unfortunately at times players are issued a red card by the referee on the day that cannot be avoided. The club as a consequence gets fined by FV for any red card offence. The club takes a dim view of any red cards however sometimes it can be seen as a “soft” offence. The club will investigate the matter with your coach and TM and if it is deemed that the player was excessive in their behaviour in the game then the club will require the player/parent to compensate the club for the fine. However it is found to be “soft” offence then the club will come to an alternative arrangement.

**FORFEIT GAMES**

At times a game may need to be forfeited for many legitimate reasons. The club must be informed of any forfeits by the Monday before the game to avoid a FV fine. If the club is not informed then it has the discretion to pass the fine on to the team.

If a game is forfeited on the match day for an unreasonable excuse, such as we didn’t have our away shirts and clashed with the opposition uniform, then the club will pass the FV fine on to the team.

RESOURCES

## OFFSIDE RULES FOR GAMES (only applies to U12 and up)

You will find an animated description of the 'Offside Rule' to ensure both players and parents understand it. Please see the link: <http://www.dynamic-thought.com/OffsideLo.swf>

## FACEBOOK and MFCC WEBSITE

MFCC (Maccabi FC Caulfield) has a Facebook page and by subscribing to their page you can view important information such as last minute notice of game cancellations.

If you do not use Facebook, you can refer to the MFCC website: [www.mfcc.com.au](http://www.mfcc.com.au)

**Team App **

Make sure to sign up to Team App with your smart phone for heaps of club info.

# CODES OF CONDUCT

It is vital that everyone involved in sporting activities, whether they are athletes, coaches, parents, officials or supporters understand their responsibilities to ensure that all participants enjoy the sport.

The codes of conduct below have been incorporated into FV Rules of Competition and all members of our club including spectators and parents are to abide by these codes of conduct.

## PLAYERS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* Play by the Rules and within the spirit of the game;
* Do not argue with or abuse any match official. Match officials are not required to offer an explanation for any decision that they make.
* Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport;
* Maintain your focus and work hard for yourself and your team;
* Be a good sport and be prepared to acknowledge good play whether it is from your team or the opposition;
* Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player;
* Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition;
* Play for your own enjoyment, and not just to please parents and coaches;
* Remove all jewellery prior to training and match play, as it is a hazard to you and those around you;
* Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s), including the consumption of alcohol at any time.

## DISCIPLINE POLICY

All players and parents are bound by the rules of conduct of our club and associations. A three strikes policy will apply.

* Player Breach 1: sit out training session + 1 match suspension.
* Player Breach 2: sit out 2 training sessions + 2 match suspension.
* Player Breach 3: suspension until seasons end.
* Parental Breach 1: Exclusion from the next match.
* Parental Breach 2 or failure to comply with Breach 1 penalty: Suspension of player from the club until seasons end.

## PARENTS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* Remember that children play the sport for their enjoyment, and not yours;
* Encourage children to play according to the rules and spirit of the game;
* Encourage all children to participate, do not force them;
* Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than the result of the activity (that is, winning or losing);
* Encourage children to always participate according to the rules;
* Never ridicule, yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game;
* Remember that children learn best by example, so applaud good play by both teams;
* Support all efforts to remove racial and religious vilification, verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities;
* Respect the match official's decisions and teach your child to do likewise; Do not argue with or abuse any match official. Match officials are not required to offer an explanation for any decision that they make.
* Show respect and appreciation to Club officials, including coaches, officials and administrators. Ensure any issues are raised through the correct channels;
* 'Smart Supporting' - not loud and intense but calm, relaxed and at all times positive;
* Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion;
* Do not smoke or consume alcohol near the team bench (Technical Area) or within 3m of the sideline.

## SPECTATOR'S CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* Applaud good play and performances from both teams, and be forward in congratulating all participants on their performance regardless of the final outcome;
* Respect the match official's decisions on the day; Do not argue with or abuse any match official. Match officials are not required to offer an explanation for any decision that they make.
* Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players;
* Show respect to for both teams when watching matches, because without them there would be no game;
* Encourage players to follow rules and accept the decision of the match official;
* Do not intimidate, harass or use foul language towards, players, match officials, Club Officials or spectators.
* Do not smoke or consume alcohol near the team bench (Technical Area) or within 3m of the sideline.

## COACHES' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* Remember that players participate for the fun of it and that winning is not everything;
* Be reasonable in your demands on younger players time, energy and enthusiasm,
* Teach your players to abide by the Rules and Laws of the Game;
* Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players;
* Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players;
* Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and the decisions of the match official;
* Follow the advice of a physician when determining the extent of a player's injury and
* Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices (refer to Coach Accreditation Criteria);
* Take time out to teach players (& others) the Laws of the Game, hence raising their awareness;
* Remind all players to play within the spirit of the game at all times;
* Ensure players are good sports and ensure each team member shakes the hand of their opponents at the conclusion of every match;
* Do not smoke or consume alcohol from the team bench (Technical Area) or sideline;
* Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and assist in raising the standards of coaching and officiating;
* Ensure everyone involved in football emphasises fair play, and not winning at all costs;
* Be tolerant and calm under pressure and approach problem solving in a supportive manner as members and players will expect you to set an example for others;

Make every effort to educate persons who breach these guidelines from time to time.

Above all enjoy your football, respect all teammates, team members and opponents and have fun!

