

MORDIALLOC-BRAESIDE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



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Club Information Handbook

CLUB LOCATION AND CONTACT DETAILS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

1. PURPOSE.....	6
2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....	6
3. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS.....	6
4. ASSISTANCE FROM PARENTS.	7
5. CLUB PROFILE.	7
5.1. OBJECTIVES.....	7
5.2. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.....	7
5.3. MEMBERSHIP.....	7
5.4. COMMUNICATION.....	8
5.5. FEEDBACK.....	8
5.6. SOCIAL EVENTS.....	8
5.7. FUNDRAISING.....	9
5.8. SPONSORSHIP.....	9
6. TEAM UNIFORM.....	10
6.1. FOOTBALL JUMPERS.....	10
6.2. SHORTS AND SOCKS.....	10
6.3. BOOTS.....	10
6.4. CLUB APPAREL.....	10
7. MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE.....	11
7.1. MEETINGS.....	11
7.2. COMMITTEE MEMBERS.....	11
8. PLAYER REGISTRATION.....	12
9. PLAYER PARTICULARS.....	14
9.1. GENERAL.....	14
9.2. PLAYER PLACEMENT POLICY.....	14
9.3. TRAINING.....	15
9.4. FINALS ELIGIBILITY.....	15
10. COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS.....	16
11. MATCH DAY.....	17
11.1. TEAM OFFICIALS.....	17
11.2. GOAL UMPIRE.....	18
11.3. BOUNDARY UMPIRE.....	18
11.4. TIMEKEEPER.....	18
11.5. LAWS OF THE GAME.....	18
11.6. DURATION OF QUARTERS.....	18
11.7. MODIFIED RULES – UNDER 9’S AND 10’S.....	19
11.8. MODIFIED RULES – UNDER 11’S AND 12’S.....	20
12. CLUB CODES OF CONDUCT AND POLICIES.....	21
12.1. PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT.....	21
12.2. COACHES’ CODE OF CONDUCT.....	23
12.3. PARENTS’ AND SPECTATORS’ CODE OF CONDUCT.....	25
12.4. INJURY AND FIRST AID.....	26
12.5. MOUTHGUARD AND PROTECTIVE HEADWEAR POLICY.....	26
12.6. SMOKE-FREE POLICY.....	26
12.7. RESPONSIBLE ALCOHOL POLICY.....	27
13. SEASON AWARDS.....	28
13.1. WEEKLY AWARDS.....	28
13.2. CLUB TEAM AWARDS.....	28

13.3.	CLUB SPECIAL AWARDS.....	29
13.4.	50 & 100 GAMES WITH THE CLUB.	30
13.5.	CLUB GRAND FINAL AWARDS.	30
13.6.	LEAGUE AWARDS.....	30
14.	CLUB HISTORY.....	31

1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide members of the Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club with all the information they require. This booklet should serve as a guide to the many services, resources and facilities available to both old and new members.

In reading this guide members should familiarise themselves with their responsibilities. The Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club is committed to improving our communications and this booklet has been prepared to help facilitate this process.

Please read this booklet carefully and retain it for future reference. If you have any questions about the content contained within this booklet or concerns about our Club, any of our Club Committee representatives should be able to assist.

It is important to note that this booklet is a guide only and to assist in families being involved with the Club and the documents referred to in Section 3 of this Information Handbook take precedence.

2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS.

For the purpose of this Information Handbook the following definitions are to apply:

- **“Club”** means the Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club Incorporated.
- **“Member”** means a person that has
 - registered to play football for the Club and has paid the annual registration fee, or
 - registered a player as a parent or guardian, or
 - paid the required fee to become a supportive member, or
 - been granted Honorary or Life Membership by the Committee
- **“MSJFL”** means Moorabbin Saints Junior Football League

3. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS.

The following reference documents have been used in preparing this Information Handbook.

- Club Constitution
- Club Rules and By-Laws
- MSJFL General Rules
- Laws of Australian Football

4. ASSISTANCE FROM PARENTS.

Parents are a vital part of the Club and from time to time the Club will ask that wherever possible, parents assist in the day to day running of the Club. If a parent feels that they have the energy or some special skills that could assist the Club, we'd love you to participate. There are a number of other areas in which the Club can always use assistance (ie access to trade skills; products at reduced prices or ground and facilities maintenance development or specialist skills to assist our coaching staff etc). To ensure successful operation each Sunday we request volunteers to assist as match officials (goal umpires, timekeepers and canteen support).

5. CLUB PROFILE.

5.1. Objectives.

The key objectives of the Club are:

- To encourage and promote fellowship and sportsmanship amongst the youth of the district, and to participate with organisations having common purpose in the game.
- To educate, train, coach and encourage those members of the Club interested in football.
- To seasonally conduct, promote, supervise and manage an Australian Rules Football Club.
- To advance and foster the game of football.

5.2. Corporate Governance.

In order to ensure the Club functions in a way that is efficient, fair and consultative, the Club maintains a Constitution and a set of Rules and By-laws that governs how the Club is to operate. These documents describe a broad range of requirements including Committee responsibilities, meeting procedures, Club official' responsibilities, financial obligations, awards as well as laws governing members' responsibilities etc.

A copy of the Club's Constitution and/or Rules and By-Laws can be made available to any member upon request. Any such requests should be directed to either the Club President or Secretary.

5.3. Membership.

Membership fees are reviewed each year at the Annual General Meeting to ensure that the Club's financial stability is maintained. The membership fee for the current season is included in the information pack handed out at our registration days.

Each year membership entitlements may vary, however are likely to include team photo, trophy, pie nights and not forgetting the chance to play footy. There is player insurance coverage included as part of the membership of the League however this is only minimal and the club encourages private health cover.

Payment of membership fees is required within four weeks of commencement of League Home and Away Games or within four weeks of joining the Club. Failure to do so may result in the player being deemed ineligible to play until such fees have been paid.

Membership fees can be paid by cash, cheques (made payable to Mordialloc-Braeside JFC) or credit card. To arrange payment of members' fees please see the Club Treasurer.

If the membership payments cannot be met by the due date, alternate payment arrangement can be made. These will be discrete arrangements between you and the Club. If you require such assistance contact the Club Treasurer, Registrar, President or Secretary.

5.4. Communication.

To keep parents and players informed, our regular Club Newsletters and e-mail bulletins are issued throughout the year and will highlight our social events and generous sponsors. Some of the various teams within the Club may elect to provide information to participants about matters relating to their own team. Our website on www.mbjfc.net will be updated weekly with team results and best players.

Another way of keeping in touch with the latest Club news and activities is by attending our regular Match Reports on Sunday night. Match reports are a great way to recognise the hard work of all players by their parents and peers. This is one of very few opportunities where children are applauded for their efforts by a large adult group. It is great to see the encouragement and self-esteem which the players receive from such recognition. The canteen and bar facilities are open from 5:00pm and the reports from all coaches begin around 5:30pm for the under 9's, 10's and 11's. Match reports for the remaining age groups commence at around 6:00pm. All families are encouraged to come down to the Club for the Match Reports with an emphasis on "getting home for dinner".

5.5. Feedback.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club values your feedback. It is hoped that parents will feel comfortable to provide feedback and assistance whenever necessary. If you have any comments concerning your child or about the operations of the Club please feel free to contact the President or any other Committee member.

5.6. Social Events.

The Club generally carries out social events throughout the season in the spirit of Club fellowship. The proposed social events calendar for the current season is

included in the information pack handed out at our registration days with details posted around the Club, in our Club Newsletter, Club e-mail bulletins or our website www.mbjfc.net.

5.7. Fundraising.

Throughout the year the Club runs raffles and themes which help to raise funds towards the running costs of the Club. Details of such activities are included in the Club Newsletter or our website.

5.8. Sponsorship.

With costs of footballs, ground fees and insurance etc increasing annually, the fees you pay do not keep the Club running. To assist in supporting the many costs of the Club there are a number of sponsorship packages available.

If you know of any business or individual who may be interested in sponsoring the Club, a leaflet outlining the packages is available. Contact any Committee member, Team Manager, Club President or Sponsorship Co-ordinator for further details. Sponsorship packages may vary from year to year however they are typically the following:

Gold Sponsor - \$700.

- Name and details on Sponsors' Board in Clubrooms
- Invitation for 2 to Sponsors' Day Luncheon
- Invitation for 2 to Annual Dinner Dance
- Framed certificate of appreciation plaque
- Club drinks voucher to the value of \$75.00
- 1 x club membership
- Internet link through the club's official website
- 10% off all club merchandise

Silver Sponsor - Minimum \$500.

- Name and details on Sponsors' Board in Clubrooms
- Invitation for 2 to Sponsors' Day Luncheon
- 1 x Club Membership
- Club drinks voucher to the value of \$50.00
- Listing on the sponsors' page within the Club's official website
- 10% off all club merchandise

Bronze Sponsor - Minimum \$250.

- Name and details on Sponsors' Board in Clubrooms
- Prominent advertising in Club Newsletter
- Invitation for 2 to Sponsors' Day Luncheon
- Appreciation plaque
- 1 x club membership

- Listing on the sponsors' page within the Club's official website

6. TEAM UNIFORM.

6.1. Football Jumpers.

Design: Red and white vertical strips.

The Club provides football jumpers. The Team Manager is responsible for allocating jumpers to players and all jumpers are to be returned to the Team Manager at the end of each season. Players are responsible for the washing and maintenance of his/her jumpers.

The Club jumpers remain the property of the Club and are only to be worn at Club organised activities and are not to be used for other activities.

6.2. Shorts and Socks.

*Design: Shorts- **Red** (Home Games) **White** (Away), Socks - **Red***

Players will need to purchase shorts (both red and white) and socks (red) as per the design specified above. Shorts and socks can be purchased from large sporting retail outlets.

If players choose to wear bicycle shorts under their football shorts they must be beige in colour.

It is important to note that the League imposes a monetary fine per player on the Club for breeches of the team uniform therefore it is a must that all players are correctly attired. The Committee may suspend a player if continued breaches occur.

6.3. Boots.

Only football boots may be worn while playing. No stainless steel or aluminium stops, only plastic stops or moulded soles.

6.4. Club Apparel.

The Club has a number of clothing items and Club merchandise available for purchase. These may include polo shirts, jackets, key rings, lapel badges, stubby holders and other items from time to time. Orders can be placed by contacting the Treasurer or Secretary.

7. MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE.

7.1. Meetings.

The Club is required in each calendar year to convene an Annual General Meeting of its members to consider matters such as Committee reports upon the transactions of the Club and to elect officers of the Club and the ordinary members of the Committee. The Annual General Meeting is normally held early October. The date and times of any such meeting is communicated to members on the Club's website. All members are encouraged and invited to attend this meeting.

General meetings are held each month through the year. The purpose of these meetings is to conduct and co-ordinate the running of the Club. All members are welcome to attend.

7.2. Committee Members.

The elected officers of the Club are:

- President,
- Senior Vice-President
- Junior Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Registrar
- 15 x General Committee Members

The elected officers and their contact details for the current season are included in the information pack handed out at our registration days.

8. PLAYER REGISTRATION.

Player registration forms are to be completed by player and parent. These forms are handed out at our registration days or can be obtained from the Club Registrar or Team Managers.

To be eligible to participate in any match the player must be registered with the Club each year.

Registering with the Club:

To register with the Club each player must complete the following forms:

- Mordialloc–Braeside Player Registration form. (This form is to be completed each season and is processed by the Club).
- Mordialloc–Braeside Injury Screening form (This form is to be completed each season and is processed by the Club)

These forms are to be completed and submitted to the Club Registrar prior to playing their first game. These forms need to be completed each year.

The information contained on the Injury Screening form shall be passed on to the Team Manager, Coach and Trainer of that player.

Registering with the MSJFL:

The registration procedure in place by the MSJFL conforms to the Rules of Football Victoria. Prior to playing with a Club in the MSJFL a player must obtain a permit to play. A permit to play shall be granted by the receipt of the Football Victoria Registration Application form satisfactorily completed and duly signed by player and parent/guardian and accompanied by a photocopy of some proof of age.

- Birth Certificate or "Extract of Birth" Certificate
- Certificate of Baptism
- Passport
- Health booklet page stating Date of Birth
- Letter on school letterhead stating the player's date of birth

These documents need to be submitted to the Club Registrar prior to playing their first game with the MSJFL. Please allow time for these documents to be processed by the Club Registrar, and forwarding them onto the MSJFL Registrar. Players are eligible only after the MSJFL Registrar has advised the Mordi-Brae Registrar that the player has been registered. Please allow at least 5 days for this processing and approval. Unlike the Club registration forms, you only need to complete this registration form once as registration with MSJFL remains in place whilst you are a participant in this League.

In relation to any player going or coming from another club they must be duly cleared by completing the necessary Football Victoria Clearance form signed by the Secretary or President of the player's previous club. A clearance is required for all players who:

- ◆ Are planning to play in Under 14 or above, and
- ◆ Who played within the last 2 years

9. PLAYER PARTICULARS.

9.1. General.

Playing members shall be fully financial by the payment of the membership fees described in Section 5.3. Failure to do so may result in the player being deemed ineligible to play until such fees have been paid. To be eligible to participate in an officiated match (excluding practice matches) the player must be registered with the MSJFL and the Club. Player registration details are described in Section 8 of this Information Handbook.

The MSJFL conducts competitions by age group. The date of determination of a player's age group shall be the first day in January of the season concerned. Example: A player who turns 12 on or after the 1st of January shall be eligible to play in the Under 12 age group in that year. Under normal circumstances playing members of the Club will be registered and play in their respective age group. Playing members of the Club requesting to play in older age teams on a casual basis must have consent from their parents. All such requests should first be discussed with the relevant Coaches. Playing members of the Club wishing to change from their normal age group to play in an older age group on a permanent basis must apply in writing to the Match Committee. A decision by the Match Committee shall then be made.

Under normal circumstances all playing members of the Club who attend training at least once per week shall be entitled to play a minimum of half a game each week except during finals series where the length of playing time shall be a minimum of one quarter, in total time.

Any player with an injury must inform the Coach or Team Manager immediately and abide by the Official's decision as to whether he may play in a match or train. The Club takes no responsibility for any injury sustained by any player and suggests that players should be covered by a health benefits scheme or a private insurance policy.

The Club has developed a Code of Conduct in relation to players. All players and parents must familiarise themselves with this Code. Section 12.1 of this Information Handbook describes this Code.

9.2. Player Placement Policy.

The Club has adopted a Player Placement policy in order to ensure that the club philosophy with respect to the club's role in the community is met.

Player Placement refers to the selection of players into teams at the commencement of each year, or where appropriate, during the season. It also refers to temporary placement of players in teams, where numbers are required in

an age group higher than the player's current age group for a few games per year.

These policies address age, skill level, development opportunities, level of participation and enjoyment of all playing members.

A copy of the Player Placement Policy can be made available to any member upon request. Any such requests should be directed to the Club President, Registrar or Secretary.

9.3. Training.

Training times are set by the Coach in conjunction with the Match Committee and players are expected to attend. Players are responsible to notify the Coach or Team Manager if they cannot attend training. Players are expected to attend training whilst under suspension by the League (or Association) or the Club.

In relation to Home and Away Games, all players, regardless of ability, are to be treated equally and be given the opportunity to play football on a regular basis. However players may be last choice (or excluded) for selection if they have not attended training without a reasonable excuse or are under suspension from the League (or Association) or the Club.

Some exceptions to the above may apply in relation to finals. Team Officials must ensure players are informed as to why he/she is not selected in a team.

Training sessions for each age group depend on the individual Coach to organise in conjunction with the Match Committee. Details about age group training sessions are included in the information pack handed out at our registration days.

9.4. Finals Eligibility.

Under the general rules of the MSJFL, a player must have played at least four regular season matches with an age-group to be eligible to participate in the finals in that age-group. Example: to be eligible for U15 finals, an U14 player must have played at least 4 games in the U15's. It is important to note that byes do not count as a credited match.

10. COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS.

The Club Committee and Match Committee appoint a Coach annually for each team. All applications for a coaching position shall be in writing to the Match Committee. Positions of Coach shall be deemed to become vacant immediately following the last game in which a team of the Club competes in a playing season. Coaches shall be responsible for the training of players and for the orderly behaviour of players whilst on and off the field.

The Club has a Code of Conduct in relation to Coaches. Section 12.2 of this Information Handbook describes this Code.

A Team Manager is appointed for each team and he/she is responsible for the orderly conduct of each match under their control. He/she shall also handle all papers relating to Team Sheets, Umpire Match Reports, Goal Umpire Score cards, Time Keeper cards, Report on Umpire forms, and voting for player awards both within the Club and the League (or Association) with which the team is affiliated and for initial player registrations.

The Coach and Team Manager are responsible for all Club equipment used by their team.

The Coaches and Team Managers contact details for the current season are included in the information pack handed out at our registration days.

11. MATCH DAY.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club is affiliated with the Moorabbin Saints Junior Football League. This league was established in 1988 and now has over 33 Clubs with age groups from under 9's to Under 17's, and over 250 teams taking part each weekend in the competition. There are nearly 6,000 registered participants.

Competition matches are normally scheduled on Sunday however there are occasions when games are scheduled on a Friday night. These will be confirmed once the League Team fixtures are issued which is normally mid April. The fixture will contain information about dates, start times and ground locations.

For a player to be eligible to participate in an officiated match (excluding practice matches) the player must be registered with the MSJFL and the Club. Player registration details are described in Section 8 of this Information Handbook. Also the Club membership fee must be paid.

A player who is unavailable for a match, must contact the Coach or Team Manager as soon as possible. Players are expected to assemble, prior to a match, at the time and location as stated by the Coach or Team Manager.

Parents must ensure that players arrive at the match at least 45 minutes before the game is scheduled to start. This allows players time to sign forms, receive coaching instructions, warm-up, and prepare for the game.

11.1. Team Officials.

Under the general rules of the MSJFL a maximum of four (4) Team Officials are permitted on the team bench (ie: Inside the fence line at a ground). They are as follows:

- Coach identified by a red colour bib.
- Team Manager identified by a maroon colour bib.
- Trainer identified by a green coloured bib.
- Runner identified by a yellow coloured bib.

There will be a parent appointed as an Umpire Escort identified by a blue coloured bib.

An additional water person is permitted in an Under 16's and 17's match. This additional water person is not to be part of the team bench and is to enter the field of play from the opposite side of the ground.

Other than players on the bench, no other persons in excess of the four nominated above are permitted on the bench.

11.2. Goal Umpire.

The Goal Umpire shall be a person of at least 16 years of age and shall be attired in a white coat and provided with two flags, a scorecard and pen. Each Goal Umpire shall be responsible for keeping the scores and shall verify same at the end of each quarter. The Goal Umpire shall be responsible for ensuring that the area between and behind the goals is kept clear of spectators and obstacles such as bicycles. In the case of a disagreement on scores recorded by the Goal Umpires the Timekeeper's Card is to be taken into consideration. The Field Umpire has the power to overrule a decision by a Club Goal Umpire if he believes such decision to be incorrect.

11.3. Boundary Umpire.

Each team is to provide a competent Boundary Umpire who shall be correctly attired (must wear white Boundary Umpire's bib) and be equipped with a whistle. The Boundary Umpire must be conversant with the correct procedures to ensure the proper conduct of the match. The Field Umpire has the power to overrule a decision by a Club Boundary Umpire if he believes such decision to be incorrect. In Under 9's and 10's, the boundary umpire will indicate when the ball has passed "out of bounds" and the field umpire will throw the ball up. In all other age groups, the Boundary umpire will throw the ball back into play.

11.4. Timekeeper.

A competent Timekeeper is to be provided by each Club and the home Club shall provide an accurate timing device. Time on shall only be added if indicated in the appropriate manner by the Field Umpire. The Timekeepers shall complete and sign the Official Timekeeper's Card as a check in the case of a dispute by the Goal Umpires. The Timekeepers shall also record the scores on the reverse of the Timekeeper's Card as a check in case of a dispute by the Goal Umpires. The Timekeepers shall be aware of the provisions in the By-Laws concerning the length of quarters and the length of intervals.

11.5. Laws of The Game.

All matches under the control of the MSJFL shall be played in accordance with the rules and laws of Australian Football as laid down by the National Football League but such rules may be modified in the case of the Under 9, 10, 11 and 12 grades.

11.6. Duration of quarters.

The following is a list of age groups and the duration of the quarter in relation to that age group.

U9 4 x 10 minutes	U14 4 x 20 minutes
U10 4 x 12 minutes	U15 4 x 20 minutes
U11 4 x 15 minutes	U16 4 x 20 minutes
U12 4 x 15 minutes	U17 4 x 22 minutes
U13 4 x 15 minutes	

11.7. Modified Rules – Under 9's and 10's.

In relation to young children participating in Under 9 and 10's, the basic idea behind the modified rules is that a young child does not have the necessary skills to dispose of the ball quickly. The rules give the child sufficient time to make the disposal. As the child's skills develop, additional rules are introduced, which reduce the time available to make a clean disposal of the ball. Minimal body contact is permitted such as bumping. Tackling and kicking the ball off the ground are not permitted. There is no ladder and no final competition. Children are encouraged to enjoy themselves. Coaches are encouraged to do their best to develop all the players.

In accordance with the rules of the MSJFL the following variations to standard rules apply in matches for Under 9's and 10's:

- *No Tackling*

Any player who grabs or tackles an opposing player at any time shall have a free kick awarded against him/her. You can however bump an opponent in the side or knock the ball out of their hands. Bumping must at all times be fair and within the rules.

- *No barging*

Where, in the umpire's opinion, a player has had a reasonable opportunity to dispose of the ball but chooses to barge past opponents, a free kick shall be awarded to the nearest opponent. The player with possession of the ball shall not fend off an opponent, nor chop past opponents.

- *Bouncing the ball*

A player may only bounce the ball twice before a compulsory kick or handball. A free kick will be awarded against a player who bounces the ball more than twice without disposing of it with a kick or handball. If a player handballs onto the ground and retrieves the ball, it will be counted as one bounce.

- *Marking*

Any player who marks a ball directly from the kick of another player shall be awarded a mark irrespective of the distance the ball travels.

- *Kicking off the ground*

A player is not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.

- *Out of bounds*

When the ball bounces out of bounds, a ball-up is made 5 metres in from the boundary. If the ball goes out on the full, normal rules apply. The Umpire will nominate two opponents of similar size to contest the ball-ups around the ground.

- *Centre Bounce*
At the centre bounce (or any other throw-up), the ruckman must palm or punch the ball. They cannot grab the ball and play on.
- *Possession*
The player in possession must make an endeavour to dispose of the ball or be penalised for holding the ball.
- *Team Numbers*
Competition rules as they stand allow for any number of players to be placed on the team sheet (i.e. no limit to the number of interchange players). 18 players can be on the field, as per normal rules.
- *Centre Square.*
The centre square rule is not mandatory
- *Official on the ground - U9's grade only.*
Each team may nominate an official (usually the coach or runner) to be on the field during U9 matches, up to the last match played prior to the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend. This official is to give instructions to players only. If the umpire feels the person is causing an obstruction to play, barracking, sledging opposition players, or trying to influence the umpire, the official will be ordered from the ground for the remainder of the match. This official cannot be replaced. Only the runner will be permitted to enter the field of play to deliver a maximum of two messages. The runner must then leave the playing field.

In accordance with the MSJFL general rules, there is no Premiership awarded in the Under 9's & 10's grade, however the MSJFL may arrange a lightning premiership at the end of the home and away games in each grade.

11.8. Modified Rules – Under 11's and 12's.

In accordance with the general rules of the MSJFL the following variation to standard rules apply in matches for Under 11's and 12's:

- *Kicking Off the Ground.*
A player is not permitted to deliberately kick the ball of the ground.
Penalty: Free kick awarded to opposing team.

12. CLUB CODES OF CONDUCT AND POLICIES.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club has established codes of conducts in relation to players, coaches, parents and spectators. All members should familiarise themselves with all of these codes. The Club is committed to ensuring all members adhere to these codes and takes any breaches to these codes seriously. Anyone who breaches any of the codes of conducts will be dealt with by Club Executive Committee. This may lead to the club member being expelled, suspended or fined.

The Club takes seriously players and officials that are sent-off during matches. If a “send-off” occurs the player or official is automatically suspended for one week but may elect to appeal this suspension. The Club Match Committee chairperson or Club Secretary can provide further information on this topic.

12.1. Player Code of Conduct.

The following is the Club’s Code of Conduct in relation to players.

1. Abide by the rules of the game and rules set down by your Coach, Club and League.
2. Never argue with an official or umpire. Only your captain or Team Manager may approach the official or umpire during a break or after the competition.
3. Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials, umpires, spectators or other players deliberately or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted
4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team’s performance will benefit and so will you.
5. Be a good sport. Acknowledge all good players whether they be by your team or the other team. Be proud to walk off the ground after each game knowing that you have given your best effort and never involve yourself in an argument with opposing players, umpires or officials.
6. Each team must group and give three cheers to the opposition team and Umpire at the end of the game.
7. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Your involvement to play is for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of it.
8. Co-operate with your Coach and team-mates, and respect the ability of your opponent, without them there would be no game.
9. Play for the ‘fun of it’ and not just to please parents and Coaches.

10. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

Persons who abuse players, team officials, or umpires will not be tolerated. This legally is an offence that can cause the Club as well as the offender to be financially and/or legally penalised. In relation to racial abuse, no player, parent or spectator shall be involved in any sort of racial abuse to any player, umpire or official of any Club. This is an offence and will be dealt with by the Executive of the Club.

12.2. Coaches' Code of Conduct.

The following is the Club Code of Conduct in relation to Coaches.

1. The Club requires each Coach to have or obtain a LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATE (minimum requirement) as approved by the Australian Coaching Council Inc.
2. Be familiar with the laws of Australian football and abide by the rules and conditions of your League and Club.
3. Teach your players that rules of the game are mutual agreements which no player should evade or break.
4. Group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity whenever possible in any competitive practice session.
5. Avoid over-playing the talented players. All players need and deserve equal time, on the ground.
6. Remember that the players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Emphasise the importance of the learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your players for making mistakes or losing a competition.
7. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of the players.
8. The scheduling and length of practice times and competitions should take into consideration the maturity level of the player.
9. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgement of umpires and opposing Coaches.
10. Follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured player is ready to play or train again.
11. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound junior coaching principles and developments. Endeavour to attain coaching accreditation and to become an active member of the local branch of the Australian Football Coaches Association.
12. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.
13. Be reasonable in your demands on young players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
14. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing.
15. Praise your players when they do well and encourage them to improve with their weaker points.
16. Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and principles of growth and development of children.

17. Coaches must be suitably attired eg, tracksuit or footy jumper & shorts or overalls.
18. Coaches to set discipline examples eg, arriving on time, suitable language, tone of voice when addressing players.
19. Coaches must be able to demonstrate each skill. Eg, wrong foot kick, handball, marking, commando rolls, etc.
20. Players need to earn your respect and the Coach must earn the players respect.
21. Enthusiasm is infectious. Enjoy your coaching as much as the boys enjoy playing. Be positive if you want to avoid negativity. (Eg, if you've had a bad day and train in a grumpy mood, the boys will probably sense the bad vibes and train without enthusiasm.) Practice what you preach.
22. Above all, do your coaching with a sense of humour.

Persons who abuse players, team officials, or umpires will not be tolerated. This is an offence that can cause the Club as well as the offender to be financially and/or legally penalised. In relation to racial abuse, no player, parent or spectator shall be involved in any sort of racial abuse to any player, umpire or official of any Club. This is an offence and will be dealt with by the Executive of the Club.

12.3. Parents' and Spectators' Code of Conduct.

The following is the Club's Code of Conduct in relation to parents and spectators.

1. Encourage children to participate if they are interested. However, if a child is not willing, do not force them.
2. Focus upon your child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
3. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
4. Encourage your child always to play by the rules.
5. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. Remember your child should be involved in football for their enjoyment, not yours.
7. Remember your child learns best by example. Applaud good play by both your team and by members of the opposing team.
8. If you disagree with an official or umpire raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most officials give their time and effort for your child's involvement.
9. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from junior sporting activities.
10. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer Coaches. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child and deserve your support.
11. Support your Club officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the League and your family. Offer your assistance to the team that your child is playing in so that every opportunity is being provided for the very best supervision and support. Your involvement will give both yourself and your child far more satisfaction.
12. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

Persons who abuse players, team officials, or umpires will not be tolerated. This is an offence that can cause the Club as well as the offender to be financially and/or legally penalised. In relation to racial abuse, no player, parent or spectator shall be involved in any sort of racial abuse to any player, umpire or official of any club. This is an offence and will be dealt with by the Executive of the Club.

12.4. Injury and First Aid.

The Club policy in relation to administering first aid is to comfort the injured player and protect them from any further injury until a qualified trainer or medical person arrives.

It should also be noted that

- The Club will provide the at least one person at all home matches who has level 1 first aid accreditation.
- Each team shall appoint a trainer to attend to on field injuries. Trainers should have completed a sports medicine awareness course or have relevant first aid qualifications. The club will provide each team with suitable first aid equipment.

To satisfy insurance requirements, any player with an injury must inform the Coach or Team Manager immediately and abide by the Official's decision as to whether he may play in a match or train. The Club takes no responsibility for any injury sustained by any player and suggests that players should be covered by a health benefits scheme or a private insurance policy.

The Club absolves itself from any financial or legal responsibility for damages arising in respect of players suffering injury or loss as a result of participation in any and all of the activities of the Club.

12.5. Mouthguard and Protective Headwear Policy.

It is Club policy, that for the protection of players, the Club strongly recommends the use of approved helmets and mouth guards in all home and away games and training sessions.

12.6. Smoke-Free Policy.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club is aware that smoking is a health risk and believes that all games, training and functions should be smoke free. To foster this philosophy the Club has adopted the following strategies

1. No cigarettes shall be sold at the Club
2. No smoking to occur inside the Clubrooms
3. All Club meetings and functions shall be smoke-free
4. Officers of the Club, Coaches and officials shall not smoke in the view of the public leading up to or during the conducting of official games or training.
5. No smoking signage will be placed in prominent positions inside the Clubrooms.

6. Club communications will promote the Club's Smoke Free Policy.

To ensure that the Club's Smoke Free Policy remains relevant, it will be reviewed annually and if required any changes will be implemented and all members notified of any such amendments.

12.7. Responsible Alcohol Policy.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club is aware that excessive alcohol can cause harm to those consuming alcohol and others. A Responsible Alcohol Policy has been adopted to minimise the risk and avoid problems.

1. Alcohol will not be served to minors
2. Alcohol will not be served to anyone who is intoxicated.

To ensure that the Club's Responsible Alcohol Policy remains relevant, it will be reviewed annually and if required any changes will be implemented and all members notified of any such amendments.

The Club is an approved and accredited holder of the Good Sports Accreditation Program Certificate.

13. SEASON AWARDS.

To be eligible for any of the awards listed below the player/member must have paid their member's fees and play a minimum of 4 games.

13.1. Weekly Awards.

During the season weekly awards are awarded in each age group. This occurs most Sunday nights. Awards vary from year to year and are donated by our sponsors. Coaches and Teams Managers are encouraged to share these awards amongst the players throughout the year. These awards focus on outstanding achievement during the match rather than best on field type award.

13.2. Club Team Awards.

At the end of each season, a trophy is awarded to every player in recognition for his/her efforts for the season.

The Club also awards a trophy for each age group in the following categories:

- First Best & Fairest*
- Second Best & Fairest*
- Third Best & Fairest*
- Coaches Award
- Most Dedicated
- Most Improved
- Encouragement Award
- Best Finals Player (if team Play in a finals game).

*Best & Fairest awards are based on the following voting system. The Team Manager nominates at least 3 people (normally the Coach, Team Manager and a parent) to select the best six players for the game. The best player is awarded 6 votes, second best 5 etc. Votes are tallied at the end of the season to determine placings. In the event of a tie, those on equal votes shall each be declared the placegetter and each shall receive a trophy.

The Coaches Award, Most Dedicated, Most Improved, Encouragement Award, and Best Finals Player are determined by the age groups team officials which comprises of Coach and Team Manager.

13.3. Club Special Awards.

- Under 9's Elizabeth Award. - The criteria for the awarding of the Elizabeth Trophy, donated by Elizabeth Junior Football Club South Australia, is as follows:

Shall be awarded to an Under 9 player at Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club who polls the highest votes (best and fairest) in the home and away games and is in their first year with this Club. If a player has played with another club at a competitive level (excluding Auskick) they do not qualify.

- Peta Hope Memorial Award - Is awarded to an Under 15's player meeting the following criteria:
 - Years with the Club (from 9's or 10's continuous).
 - Training Attendance (Weekly attendance).
 - Attitude & Demeanour (Towards team mates, training, playing & Club), respect for authority.
 - Club Spirit (Keen & helps around the Club).
 - Achievements (Awards etc).

A brief on each eligible player is to be prepared by the team committee of the U15's and submitted in writing & verbally to the Club Committee. The Club Committee then decide which player is to receive the Peta Hope Award on a 3, 2, 1, vote count.

- Matthew O'Leary Memorial Goal Kicking Award. The player who kicks the most goals in the season, (excluding Finals), from any age group.
- Val Prosser Memorial Award. Under 16's Best & Fairest in memory of one of our hardest working Life members.
- Matthew Alves Award. Under 14's The 'Fourth Best and Fairest' player, (as voted) in memory of the effort and dedication of all past players.
- Under 17's Sportsmanship Award. The award is for the player who has exhibited good sportsmanship.

Being a team player, have played within the rules of the game, have not been sent off the ground, have not been reported, and have played a minimum of seven games with the Under 17's.

The Trophy is a perpetual Trophy, and the recipient will receive a Medallion with Ribbon.

- Les Paten Memorial Best Club person Award. Voted by the Committee on a 3, 2, 1, vote count, for their commitment and work for the Club. The recipient can be:- a player, a Committee member, or a Club member.

13.4. 50 & 100 Games with the Club.

Players who achieve 50 & 100 games receive a trophy.

Players reaching their 100 Games, have their names put on the 100 Games Honour Board in the year they achieve their 100 games. When players leave the Club, the number of games played for the Club goes beside their name.

13.5. Club Grand Final Awards.

The Club will give awards to Grand Final players as follows:- each team member of the winning side will receive a Gold Medallion (engraved) with red and white ribbon and a pennant listing player & team officials names. Each team member of the runners up side will receive a Silver Medallion (engraved) with red and white ribbon.

13.6. League Awards.

Under the general rules of the MSJFL each season the League shall make available awards for the Best and Fairest player and runner up in each age group from U11's upwards made on the basis of votes cast by the Field Umpires during the home and away matches.

The Field Umpire shall allocate three votes for the Best and Fairest players, two votes for the Second Best and Fairest player and one vote for the Third Best and Fairest player in each match. At the conclusion of the home and away series, the player receiving the greatest number of votes in each grade shall be declared the winner. The player receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be declared the runner up provided that the player has not been found guilty of an offence and/or been suspended by either the Independent Tribunal or the Executive Committee during the season. In the case of an equal number of votes multiple trophies will be presented.

The League will provide a Trophy for the best and fairest and for the runner up to the best and fairest player in each age group.

14. CLUB HISTORY.

Three local boys wanting to play football formed the Mordi-Braeside Football Club in February 1969. At the time the only teams in the area were for over 18 year olds, and there were no kids their age or size to play football with. One of the boy's fathers said, "gather the kids and talk to them about playing football" so they rounded up enough to make a team, calling it the Keefer Street Football Club. The Club eventually changed its name to Mordialloc- Braeside Junior Football Club because Keefer Street was then the boundary between Mordialloc and Braeside.

Their first serious match was played at the Ross Reserve in Heatherton against Chelsea Heights - (Mordialloc- Braeside won)! To get to every match they used to cram 10 or more kids into the back of one of the father's panel van while some travelled by push bike. They continued to play at Ross Reserve for another two years before moving to the current location at the Walter Galt Reserve in Parkdale. The Club jumpers at the time were light green with a diagonal white stripe.

In their first year they won most of their games, but alas a premiership eluded them. The first presentation night was in 1969 and held at the Mordialloc Community Centre in Warren Road, the guest there that night was Kevin Murray (Fitzroy) and Norm Brown (Fitzroy). In 1970 they joined the Chelsea League, another good year with lots of wins, but still no premiership.

In 1971 the Club moved to the Walter Galt reserve, a previous tip site that they top dressed and grassed which became their first oval. There were no dressing rooms or Club rooms at this stage, so they changed in tents, cars, or whatever. There were two teams, Under 13's and Under 15's. The Under 13's had an excellent season and secured a berth in the 1971 Grand Final in which they produced their first premiership!

1972 saw the Club grow with Under 11's and 10's formed. The Under 10's began due to an influx of some 70 boys wanting to play and were nick named the "midgets". The midgets won a premiership that year against Carrum. In 1973 there were Under 9's, 10's, 11's, 12's, 13's, 14's and 15's.

Conditions for playing football for the boys were not the best, they played on an old tip site, bottom oval, with glass and rubbish projecting out from the ground. The oval had no posts, they used bicycle's from St John Vianney's to make the goal posts. They were known in the early days as the "grasshoppers" because of having to hop around all the grass and pot holes of the old tip site. Some time later, the name was changed to the Mustangs.

In 1976, Mordialloc Football Club donated their jumpers to us, and that is where the red and white stripes came from and they pinched the Carlton Football Club song, and re wrote the lyrics.

Up until 1986 the Club played in three leagues. Chelsea League (Melbourne colours), Dandenong League (blue and mauve striped jumpers) and Frankston League (red and white striped jumpers).

In 1998 we joined the Moorabbin Saints Junior Football League. A great introduction to the league with a premiership to under 10's and runners up in Under 9's and 13's.

Some of the players to make to "AFL level" were Brett Marchant, Chad Liddell, Cristian O'Brien and Glen Boland.

Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club has had many years of experience of organising junior football in this community and we are continuing to grow as a Club and we are one of the largest junior football clubs (in terms of teams and members) in the City of Kingston. Over recent years we have continued to forge strong working relationship with Parkdale Auskick and Parkdale Vultures Football Club. The strength of these partnerships lies in the sharing of expertise in coaching and training techniques as well as the facilities. Our relationship with these Clubs has also helped us assist families to make informed decisions about children playing football at either a junior or senior level.

Today we currently field an average of fourteen teams from under 9's through to under 17's and have over 320 players. All our Coaches are professionally trained and accredited as Level 1 in the skills of Australian Rules and we provide in-house training for our on field team officials such as Team Managers and Trainers.

As a Club we recognise the importance of fostering a strong family atmosphere. Our aim is that we want children to have a sense of belonging to a Club that understands them right from the beginning. This includes assisting them with their development on an individual, physical and sporting level in a team environment that is safe, fun and an enjoyable experience. We also place a focus on maximizing participation in the game of Australian Rules Football.

CLUB SONG.

(To the tune of the Carlton Football Club Song)

We are the Red and Whites
We are the Mighty Red and Whites
We're the team that never lets you down
We're the only team from Mordi Town
That's why they cheer us
The others fear us
They won't come near us
Because they know that they've been playing
Against the mighty Red and Whites.