

# West Coast Junior Football Club

## Bouncedown Newsletter 2017

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Welcome to Season 2017 at West Coast Junior Football Club, footy by the sea.

You will receive three newsletters from the Club this year, but this will be the lengthiest. A number of activities are planned for the next few weeks to help players and parents to ease into the new season.

Club information (including Committee contacts) is available at [westcoastjfc.com](http://westcoastjfc.com). For all the latest news, follow us on Facebook and Instagram ([west\\_coast\\_jfc](https://www.instagram.com/west_coast_jfc)).

### Pre-Season Training

As advised previously, pre-season fitness training will be provided free of charge to all players in Years 3 to 9. The professionals from Aspire Fitness will lead sessions beginning outside the clubrooms at 4.30pm on each Tuesday of March. Today's first session was very popular, and the kids had a hoot. The sessions will be held in two groups, one for our younger players and the other for older kids. Our wonderful sponsor and endorsed mouthguard supplier, Gobsmacked, will attend the *fourth* of these sessions - on 28 Mar 17 - to conduct fittings.

Pre-season team training will begin during April. Details will be provided by team coaches and managers.

### Club Day and Kit Issue

A Club Day will be held at the Clubrooms on the afternoon of Sunday 19 Mar 17 from 1.00pm at which we will issue team uniform items, facilitate purchase of shorts and socks from Jim Kidd Sports, and offer mouthguard fittings by Gobsmacked.

Our intention, subject to the Club's continued financial health, is to issue every player in Year 4 and up with branded kit every second season. We experienced significant delays with last year's orders on BLK of high quality jackets and bags, making this year's issue the first (although last year's Year 7 representatives on the Melbourne trip received their gear late in the season). The following items will be issued on 19 Mar 17:

- Years 3 and 8: WCJFC cap and stickers
- Years 4 to 7, and 9: WCJFC cap, stickers, bag, BLK Club jacket
- Coaches and managers: WCJFC cap, shirt, bag, BLK Club jacket

(Note that any Year 8s not issued team kit for last season's Melbourne trip will receive their bag and jacket, too.)

### Registrations and Teams

In addition to our highly successful Auskick program, we will field teams in Years 3 to 9 this year. Unfortunately, player commitments to the PSA competition has made it impossible to field a Year 10 side. (We are exploring the potential for strategic alignments with other local clubs to facilitate Year 10 teams in future years.) Registrations are already closed for Years 8 and 9, where we expect to field very strong sides after last year's runs to the Grand Final.

Please ensure that you your contact details in the Sports TG system are accurate. We had several complaints last year that we had not contacted parents about certain issues, only to find that player and parent e-mail addresses had not been updated.

## Coaches and Managers

The procedure for selecting coaches is detailed on the website. Most coaches have been appointed for 2017, although a couple of appointments have been delayed pending determination of how many teams are being fielded (a product of late player registrations). Most teams also have a manager in place. Our hearty thanks and best wishes are due to the group of volunteers who give up their time and energy to fulfil these crucial roles.

In cases where a manager has not volunteered, it is our usual practice to leave it to the coach to press-gang ... errr, encourage a parent to take on the role. Ideally this would happen prior to Coaches' and Managers' Night, to be held at the Clubrooms on Thursday 16 Mar 17, when kit is issued and information passed along about accreditation, the competition, administration, and news from the Club. The District's 'bouncedown meeting' is scheduled for Tuesday 4 Apr 17.

Your team's coach will contact you with details about training and other arrangements.

## Mouthguards

Mouthguards are compulsory for all players in competition years (3 and up) and very strongly recommended for Auskickers, too. Our sponsors Gobsmacked make very high quality mouthguards, and have arrangements in place with most private health insurers. As noted above, they will conduct fittings from 1.00pm on Club Day 19 Mar 17 and from 4.45pm at the final pre-season fitness training on 28 Mar 17. In addition, we intend to arrange fittings during pre-season training, too, and will confirm times via Facebook.

## Game Times and Season Dates

All games are played on Sundays. There has been much standardisation of season dates and game times across the metropolitan area this year at the behest of the WA Football Commission, and some times have changed.

Auskick will be held at 9.00am. Although there will be some exceptions due to ground constraints, Years 3 and 4 will usually play games at 8.30am, Years 5 and 7 at 10.00am, Years 6 and 8 at 11.30am, and Year 9 at 1.00pm. As in previous years, we will organise some Friday night games under lights once fixtures have been finalised and convenient 'derby' fixtures identified.

To accommodate a 15 game season and finals whilst working around AFL fixtures, public holidays, and community events, the following season dates have been agreed:

- Round 1 – 30 Apr 17
- General bye – 4 Jun 17
- Last round before mid-season break – 25 Jun 17
- First round after mid-season break - 16 Jul 17 (*Note: this is the last Sunday of school holidays, although there is potential for teams to reschedule games to mid-week.*)
- Auskick Gala Day – 13 Aug 17
- Finals Week 1 – 3 Sep 17
- Grand Finals – 17 Sep 17

## Grounds

It has been the Club's intention for some time to provide our younger players with a proper 'home ground' for training and games, rather than having them 'fit in' amongst older teams. Furthermore, we wanted to provide an obvious path from Year 3 football to our most senior teams.

We have been able to achieve these objectives this year by securing McLean Park, Floreat as a WCJFC ground. We will have access to toilet, changeroom, and storage facilities, and will be allowed to mark grounds to suit our competition requirements. Players who remain with the Club through successive years will be 'promoted,' as it were, to City Beach Oval Upper and finally to City Beach Oval Lower, under lights, where we hope they will continue their football with our partner Club in A Division amateurs, West Coast Amateur Football Club.

## **Womens Football**

WCJFC intends to form girls teams in Season 2018. Unfortunately, no new teams were accepted to this year's District competition. If mothers or daughters would like to play footy this season, competition and Club details are available on our Facebook page. It won't be as good as playing for The Mighty Saints, but ... .

## **Season Wind-Up, Trophy Presentation, and AGM**

Last season, we tried a new approach to the season wind-up, holding a 'Brownlow Medal' style event in the week leading up to Grand Finals: food trucks, formal trophy presentations in front of other players and parents, a (quick!) AGM, and a bar. Feedback from attendees was very positive. We intend to do the same this year, so please pencil it into your diary: Sunday 10 Sep 17.

## **Sponsorships**

We rely heavily on our sponsors for the future of our Club. Without sponsorships, we are unable to do the 'extra' things that move us forward. We have had a number of new sponsors join us this year; they are detailed below and on the front page of our web site.

Should you or your business be able to help the Club by providing sponsorship (of the Club, a team, an event, or a purchase), please contact our Coordinator Sponsorship, Justin Dyson, at [sponsorship@wcjfc.com](mailto:sponsorship@wcjfc.com).

## **Year 7 Melbourne Trip**

Each year, WCJFC Year 7s organise a footy trip to Melbourne. The Club offers some financial support, but it relies heavily on the commitment of parents. We hope that this year's year 7s will have the opportunity to continue the tradition ... and perhaps bring home some silverware ... which has proved a difficult task to date!

## **New Logo**

Although our colours are the best around, we decided that it was time to modernise and professionalise our logo. You will find it on our website, stickers, and promotional material now, and it will be introduced to our jumpers and signage as replacement falls due. In the words of a graphic designer, it "provides the image of a bold, modern Club with a strong identity, unified on and off the field." According to those of us who voted for it, it just looked kind of grouse.





Again, welcome to the Club, and good luck for the 2017 Season.

**Cliff Stagoll (President) and the Committee of West Coast Junior Football Club**