



Brunswick Zebras MiniRoos 2020

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the training start?

Pre-season training is likely to start on Wednesday 12th February at Sumner Park. For under 8 and 9 teams training is likely to be between 6-7pm. For under 10, 11 and 12 training could be scheduled for a later than 6pm start i.e. 6:30. Scheduling of training depends on the availability of training grounds and the number of teams.

What is pre-season?

Pre-season goes for approximately 7 weeks. This is an opportunity to organise children into teams, to ensure we have a coach and a team manager for each team and to begin working on skills.

Where and how often do we train?

In the 2019 season there were 19 MiniRoos teams training across four grounds: Sumner Park, East Brunswick, Balfe Park, Brunswick East, Clifton Park Synthetic Soccer Pitch, Brunswick and McAlister Oval, Parkville.

The training schedule will be confirmed during pre-season. It is likely to be on Mondays and Wednesdays, though this may change depending on ground availability. Under 8 and 9 teams will likely train once per week with a game on Sunday. If your child is in an under 10, 11 and 12 team you can expect to train twice per week with a game on Sunday.

How do I know which age group my child belongs to?

Children who are 7 or under as at 1 January 2020 can join an under 8 team, children who are 8 or under as at that date can join an under 9 team, children who are 9 or under an under 10 team, and so on. There is some flexibility with these requirements at MiniRoos level, but any request will need to be negotiated on a case by case basis.

When do matches begin and how long does the season go for?

Football Victoria (FV) organises the competition structure including game scheduling. The season starts with the first game which is likely to be scheduled in early April, 2020 (usually the week after Easter). There are 18 games in a season. Games are scheduled throughout school holidays. This cannot be changed. During the season your team will have a couple of free weekends (bye). These can be used for a catch-up game or just for a bit of rest. Usually the competition finishes in September before the school holidays.

Where do I travel for matches?

We play teams from the northern suburbs of Melbourne, so you may need to travel to Epping and Eltham, as well closer suburbs such as Coburg and Preston.

How much are the fees?

The fees for MiniRoos remain the same as last year - \$550.

How do we enroll?

Registration will be open in early February 2020. An email will be sent to you with a link to the Brunswick Zebras website for registration, along with a booklet explaining how to register. Please note that the registration system changed in 2019. Many parents reported issues with the new system which took patience and time to resolve. All registration queries need to be emailed to brunswickzebrasfc@gmail.com.

What kind of experience does my child need to have?

No prior experience of soccer is required. MiniRoos provides an enjoyable participation experience for young people of all abilities with a focus on skill development, learning to play as a team and above all, having fun. The club supports all levels of play from beginners to advanced.

What are Joeys, Wallabies and Kangaroos?

There are three categories of play: Joeys (no or little experience), Wallabies (beginning to develop their football skills) and Kangaroos (strong grasp of football skills). Coaches determine the category of play in the pre-season training for their team depending on the team's level of skill, experience and motivation to train.

Not all year levels will have a Kangaroos team. If there is enough interest to form a Kangaroos team at a particular age level, a process for selecting players will be developed to ensure teams are competitive at that level. Additional technical support will be made available to coaches to select and coach players at the Kangaroos level.

Do you have girls' teams?

The club encourages female players and there is a long history of women's soccer at Brunswick Zebras. In 2019 the Club launched a Women's Soccer Strategy to focus its efforts on supporting girls and women in soccer.

We are actively recruiting girl players for all age levels. Girls are welcome to form a girls' only team (dependent on numbers – min 10 players for U8, 9 or 10 team and min 12 players for U11 and 12 teams). Girls can also join any team if they wish to play in a mixed team.

What do I need to do as a parent?

You are expected to attend your child's training and be supportive of your child, other team mates and parents. Parents are also expected to participate in fundraising activities allocated to your team including rostered canteen duties. Other examples of tasks include equipment stock take, coordinating photo day schedule and lines marking.

4th November 2019