

Floreat Athena Football Club

U8s FAQs



| WHEN DO WE PLAY?

Matches will be held on Saturday mornings. Each U8s team will play two 24-minute matches between 9.00am and 10.00am or 10.00am and 11.00am depending on fixturing.

| WHERE DO WE PLAY?

All matches will be held at Britannia Reserve for the entire season.

| WHEN DOES THE SEASON COMMENCE?

The season will commence on 20th April 2024 with a 2 week break over the winter school holidays. The last game of the season will be on Saturday, 31st August.

| WHY ARE GAMES BEING MOVED TO A SATURDAY?

Due to the huge growth we are experiencing at the club across all age groups it is necessary to move the U8s to a Saturday morning to ensure we have adequate space for all of our teams to play. We are a community club, and we endeavour to give all children that are interested in playing football the opportunity to play.

By moving our games to a Saturday morning, this will also mean that we will manage our own competition and not participate in the Football West Clusters competition. Every game will be played at home where there is plenty of parking available and closer to home for a lot of our families.

A benefit of moving the competition in-house and to a Saturday morning is that our coaches and in turn our players will benefit from having our Technical Director, Mark Jones oversee the program and assist and provide support to our coaches. Better coaches make better players!

| WHY HAS THE CLUB DECIDED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOOTBALL WEST COMPETITION?

The Football West competition only runs on a Sunday morning. By moving our matches to a Saturday morning we are unable to participate in the Football West competition.

Whilst we have participated in the Football West competition in the past, our Technical Director's experience from previous clubs and organisations, has shown that players get more enjoyment and develop their skills quicker by having more smaller sided matches as the kids will get a lot more touches of the ball and ultimately having the ball is what leads to enjoyment and in turn better skills – a win, win scenario.

To that end our U8 competition will be either 5-aside or 6-aside (including keepers) on smaller pitches than the traditional U8 football pitch – a perfect stepping stone from the 4-a-side cluster competition. The U8's will be split into 3-5 squads, depending on numbers, and train in squads. Each squad will then be made up of smaller teams who will play against the other squad teams.

| HOW MANY WILL BE IN A TEAM?

We will run a Clusters style competition which will see children placed into squads with a Head Coach appointed. Each squad will then be made up of smaller teams which will play against the other Clusters.

Premier League Champions

1977, 1988, 1997, 2007, 2022

Cup Winners

1987, 1988, 1989, 1997, 2009, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2023

Night Series Winners

1977, 1985, 1997, 2000, 2011, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2022

We will be playing a 5 or 6-a-side competition for the U8s (subject to number of players). Depending on availability of children on a particular day, there may be between 6 – 8 children in each team.

| CAN OUR CHILDREN PLAY IN A TEAM WITH THEIR FRIENDS?

There will be the ability to play with friends and this will be coordinated closer to the season commencement.

We will do our best to fulfil requests, however, the final decision on what Clusters are formed is ultimately made by the Club. It will be the Head Coaches responsibility to determine who is in a team together on game days.

| WILL CHILDREN BE GRADED?

As we are conducting an internal competition, we will not be grading players.

| WHEN IS TRAINING?

Pre-season training will commence in March on a Saturday morning. The Club will confirm the date when training commences.

Training once the season has commenced will be taken by the Head Coach during the week on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

We will also be holding an optional Floreat Athena Football Mastery session on Mondays. Term 1 will run from 19th February for 5 weeks. Term 2 and 3 details will be finalised in advance of each term. The cost will be \$25 per session and players will need to commit to a full term. Upon registration you will receive a Football Mastery top to wear to training. Your match day shorts and socks can be worn with the training top.

| CAN OUR CHILDREN PLAY IN A TEAM WITH THEIR FRIENDS?

If parents would like their children placed in a team with their friends, this would need to be confirmed by both children's parents via sending a request to registrar@floreatathenafc.com.au.

We will do our best to fulfil requests, however, the final decision on what teams are formed is ultimately made by the Club.

| WHAT DO WE WEAR ON MATCH DAYS?

All players will be issued a match day top to use for the season. The top is then handed back at the end of the season. A \$50 fee will be charged for any game day top that is returned in an unusable condition.

Blue shorts and blue socks will be required to be purchased to wear with the game day top. Our shorts are \$27.50ea and Socks are \$16ea.

All players will also need boots and shin pads to wear on game days and at training. We recommend Onside Sports in Malaga for boots and accessories as they have a large range of brands and sizes.

| WHAT DO WE WEAR TO TRAINING?

For mid-week training, a training top will be required which are \$35.00ea. Please note that the training tops are on the small size, and we recommend going up one size.

The blue shorts and blue socks that are worn on match days can also be worn for training.

If you sign up for the additional Football Mastery sessions, a training top will be provided as part of your fees, which can be used for training too.

| WHERE CAN WE PURCHASE THESE ITEMS?

All items mentioned above can be purchased from the Floreat Athena Shop [HERE](#).

| WHAT ARE THE FEES?

Fees for our U8s is \$395.

Floreat Athena FC accepts KidSport vouchers as part payment of our fees. If you have a KidSport voucher, please forward the voucher code to registrar@floreatathenafc.com.au. To check if you are eligible for a KidSport payment please click [HERE](#).

| WHAT DO THE FEES INCLUDE?

All Fees Include:

- Team registration fees
- Individual registration fees
- Football West and Football Australia insurance fees
- City of Vincent reserve hire (Britannia Reserve)
- Portion of clubroom hire (Britannia Reserve Clubrooms)
- Individual medallion
- Team photo
- Trophy presentation day
- Contribution towards football equipment (e.g. goals, cones, balls, bibs, etc.)
- Line marking
- One standard FAFC Club membership per registered child for one parent – entitles families to discounted venue hire and other member benefits including voting rights at the AGM. Once your player registration has been received and approved you will receive details on how to redeem your FAFC Club membership.
- FREE family entry to all Floreat Athena FC Senior NPL home matches

| HOW DO WE REGISTER?

Registrations are open! You can access Play Football to complete your registration [HERE](#).

You will be able to select from the following two options:

1. If you registered last year you can sign in using the same email you used to create the account.
2. If you have previously registered prior to 2019 you will need to set-up a new account or if you are registering on behalf of someone else, you must still create a Play Football account using your details. Once your account is created, you will be able to add details of the registrant.

Payment of our Club fees which includes the Football West and Football Australia fees are payable either online by credit/debit card or via bank deposit.

| DO I HAVE TO VOLUNTEER?

To enable our Club to run a successful season we rely on the help from our parents. There will be many volunteering opportunities throughout the season from coaching, canteen duty, assisting with games and pitch set-up and pack-up. Each cluster will be rostered on throughout the season to assist with our match day activities. Many hands make light work!