



Mini Football – 9th to 12th Grades

Please read and keep this information to refer to later as it may answer many of your questions throughout the season.

From 9th Grade onwards children become more orientated to skills and technical football knowledge. Mini Football is a programme filled with motivational and competitive challenges for the players. There is an increasing focus on learning football skills in the context of the game.

Each grade offers two levels of play, Local League and Traveling League.

Squad size:

9 th Grade	9 players (7 on field plus 2 subs)
10 th Grade	9 players (7 on field plus 2 subs)
11 th Grade	11 players (9 on field plus 2 subs)
12 th Grade	11 players (9 on field plus 2 subs)

Focus

- Refining techniques
- Introducing advanced tactical elements
- Set teams – developing socially responsible players with teamwork
- Agility and speed within football contexts

Local or Traveling / Promo Teams

Each grade offers two levels of team, Local League and Traveling / Promo League.

Traveling or Promo Teams are for skilled players wanting additional challenge during the season. The team is usually selected from pre-season trials. The team plays games throughout the Wellington Region and is expected to travel to these games, which can be in the Hutt Valley, Wellington Central, or Northern Suburbs. The teams are graded through the season to ensure they continue to play competitive teams.

There is no difference between Traveling and Promo teams. Traveling is used for 9-12th Grades while Promo is used for 13/14th Grades but may be phased out and replaced with Traveling for all grades.

Local League Teams

Training / Practice

During the football season Mini Football Local League players have training **once** a week. Your training day and time will be set following registration when teams have been formed and coaches assigned. The availability of the Coach has the greatest bearing on training sessions. Training will start within 2 weeks of Registration Day.

Training is designed by the team coach but is likely to include a Small Sided Game for the Coach to observe then identify techniques to teach outside of the game. Once the techniques have been practiced another Small Sided Game may be played to allow the newly learnt techniques to be applied.

You are able to leave your child unattended at training and collect at the end if you wish. Please be aware that if your child is causing significant disruption your child may be asked to sit out during the session; you will be informed if this occurs.

All our coaches are volunteers and are not expected to manage disruptive behaviour that distracts them from their coaching role.

Games

Games are played every Saturday during the season according to a draw provided by Capital Football. The game locations alter each week throughout the Kapiti Horowhenua region, which runs from Otaki to Paekakariki. Game times also vary but are usually in the morning.

Uniform

Your child will be issued with a club shirt to wear for Saturday games, these **MUST** be returned at the end of the season.

Additional uniform that you will need to provide is plain black shorts, club socks, shin pads, and football boots.

Training – Shin pads and football boots must be worn otherwise child cannot train.

Game Days – Full uniform must be worn, shirt, shorts, socks, shin pads, football boots.

Absences

Your child is part of a team that relies on every player to commit to the team and attend training and games every week. If at any time your child cannot attend training or a game please let your Coach know as soon as possible. Your team may default on games if there are not enough players to field a team.

Traveling League Teams

Training / Practice

During the football season Mini Football Traveling League players have training **twice** a week. Your training days and times will be set following registration when teams have been formed and coaches assigned. The availability of the Coach has the greatest bearing on training sessions. Training will start within 2 weeks of Registration Day.

Training is designed by the team coach but is likely to include a Small Sided Game for the Coach to observe then identify techniques to teach outside of the game. Once the techniques have been practiced another Small Sided Game may be played to allow the newly learnt techniques to be applied.

You are able to leave your child unattended at training and collect at the end if you wish. Please be aware that if your child is causing significant disruption your child may be asked to sit out during the session; you will be informed if this occurs.

All our coaches are volunteers and are not expected to manage disruptive behaviour that distracts them from their coaching role.

Games

Games are played every Saturday during the season according to a draw provided by Capital Football. The game locations alter each week throughout the Wellington region. The location of the games will alternate with Away and Home games.

Uniform

Your child will be issued with a club shirt, shorts, jacket and bag to wear for Saturday games, these **MUST** be returned at the end of the season.

Additional uniform that you will need to provide is club socks, shin pads, and football boots.

Training – Shin pads and football boots must be worn otherwise child cannot train.

Game Days – Full uniform must be worn, shirt, shorts, socks, shin pads, football boots.

Spectator Behaviour

It is expected that you **positively** encourage your children from the sideline. The sideline of children's sport is no place for negativity or ugly behaviour – children model what they see. We want the children to love football and to want to keep coming back to play.

Technique criticism is also unwarranted and unwanted from the sidelines. We respect that you have been taught to play football a certain way but please let us teach them when on the field.

In the unlikely event that you witness unsporting behaviour on the field or sideline please inform your Grade Coordinator and this will be communicated to Capital Football.

Cancellations

- Training will be cancelled by 4pm on Training day. Notification will be made via email to the address you have provided at Registration. Training will be cancelled if the grounds have been closed by the Council or in adverse weather.
- Occasionally the location of Training may be changed if Jim Cooke Park is closed and Waikanae Park is open – this will be notified via email by 4pm on Training day.
- Game Day will be cancelled if the grounds are closed on in adverse weather. Cancellations are announced on NewsTalk ZB, on www.foxsportspulse.com search Capital Football Cancellations, or Facebook www.facebook.com/waikanaeafc by Friday 6pm or Saturday 8:15am.

Absences

Your child is part of a team that relies on every player to commit to the team and attend training and games every week. If at any time your child cannot attend training or a game please let your Coach know as soon as possible. Your team may default on games if there are not enough players to field a team.