



## Keilor Cricket Club

### Junior Manual for Players and Parents

Version 2025

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## ***INTRODUCTION***

Thank you for choosing to be part of the Keilor Cricket Club!

The purpose of this manual is to provide all junior players, parents and officials with an understanding of the structure, operation and general culture of the junior club. It aims to provide guidelines for all players and parents with respect to required standards and conduct when representing the Club on and off the field. All players and parents are encouraged to read the following information thoroughly.

### ***1. Keilor Cricket Club history***

The Keilor Cricket Club is set in the picturesque surrounds of Keilor Village, located on the highly prominent Old Calder Highway. The ground is a major focal point for the Keilor community, set amongst stunning pine trees and native gums, and holds a number of events each year including the Keilor gift.

The club's history dates back to 1898. Keilor was only a country village, a long way out in the "bush" from Melbourne. However it was an important location, as for many years it had acted as the second major stopover for travellers on their way to both the Bendigo and Ballarat goldfields.

Today the Keilor Cricket Club prides itself in offering a quality, family friendly setting with a vibrant mix of families who support friends, partners and children who play Australia's longest running national sport – cricket.

### ***2. Junior Club Mission Statement***

The Keilor Cricket Club has a Junior Development Program; our mission is:

- To encourage the participation of all children from the local community in Sport.
- To foster an environment whereby all junior players are safe, enjoy and feel successful at the game of cricket at whatever level they reach.
- To develop the feeling of community and club within Junior players at the Keilor Cricket Club.
- To "Inspire" each junior player, to strive to play senior cricket be it at the Keilor Cricket Club, District Cricket, State Cricket or even for Australia.

### **3. Child Safety**

Every junior player at Keilor is entitled to feel safe and enjoy a safe environment. Keilor Cricket Club is a signatory to the Australian Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Keilor has an appointed Child Safety Office (CSO) who is available to take any concerns from any player or parent. All communications are confidential. Details on our policies and contact details for the CSO can be found on the website or provide by a team manager, coach or junior coordinator.

### **4. Affiliation**

The Keilor Cricket Club is affiliated with the North West Metropolitan Cricket Association (NWMCA) and the Victorian Turf Cricket Association (VTCA). Junior teams play in the NWMCA junior Mixed and All Girls competitions. The NWMCA website is: <http://nwmca.vic.cricket.com.au/>

### **5. Junior Sub-Committee**

A Junior Committee has been formed as a part of the Keilor Cricket Clubs commitment to the development of a strong and well-managed junior club and the future development of junior players. The people involved are volunteers. We welcome new parents to join the Junior Committee in any capacity. Names and contact details of the Junior Sub-Committee members will be found on the website <http://keilorcc.vic.cricket.com.au>

### **6. Communications**

The Keilor Cricket Club will communicate with its members via a number of media including social media, email, text message and through Team App. Information is available on the club website <http://keilorcc.vic.cricket.com.au/>

### **7. Working With Children Check (WWCC)**

The Working with Children Check (WWCC) is a mandatory minimum background check for people who work or volunteer in child-related work. It applies to people who have regular direct contact with children where that contact is not directly supervised.

The Keilor Cricket Club requires all team managers and coaches to have lodged a WWCC prior to the season commencing. The Keilor Cricket Club Junior Coordinator will maintain a register of the people within the Club who have been approved under the legislation.

WWCC application forms and guides can be found on the Victorian Government website: <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>. There is no cost for this check as all roles are voluntary.

## **8. Junior Player Information**

### **8.1. Registration Process and Fees**

Registration for Junior cricketers will be available from early September through the Play Cricket website. A link will be emailed to players from the prior season while links and QR codes will be displayed on our website and around the club.

The fee structure, registration form requirements and information on the registration process will be updated seasonally on the club website.

Fees will vary depending on the number of players per family registered to play. Our fee structure covers a range of costs including the cost of personal injury insurance, NWMCA Registration, City Council ground fees, shirt, hat and nominated club initiatives.

**New players to the club must provide a copy of Birth Certificate or Proof of Age document.**

Fees must be fully paid by a determined date, depending on the season etc. If a player is not registered and paid by the nominated date the player will not be considered for team selection.

### **8.2. Financial Support**

The Keilor Cricket Club is enrolled in a number of programs that could provide support to families.

An example of this is the Brimbank in2sport initiative, which can provide junior members up to 75% of their annual fees.

For more information on this program or others please contact the Junior Coordinator.

### **8.3. Junior Cricket Structure**

Players can register to play cricket starting with the Cricket Victoria's Junior Program for beginners. From this players can move into All Girl or Mixed (predominantly boys) teams in the following age groups: Under10, Under12, Under14 and Under16.

Junior teams are configured each season depending on numbers of registered players. Keilor Cricket Club recognises that some players will prefer to play with their friends and other players will have specific match day requirements due to other commitments. We will endeavour to incorporate as many of these individual requirements as possible into our team selection process.

**For Under Age Teams, age eligibility cut off is taken as of the 1st of September prior to the start of the season.**

**Dispensation can be applied for to allow players to play one year below their age. This needs to be discussed with the Junior Coordinator**

Players must be less than the age limit for their team as at 1 September preceding the

start of the season. Girls playing in the NWMCA mixed competition may play TWO (2) years out of their age group. For example a girl of age under 14 as at 1st September is eligible to play in the Under 12 competition.

The structure of games at each level is determined by the guidelines and rules set out by Cricket Victoria and or the NWMCA.

#### ***8.4. Cricket Equipment and Clothing***

The club will provide each team with the necessary cricket equipment and first aid kits for training and on match days. For those players who choose to use club equipment (pads, bats and gloves) this will be in a team kit bag, managed by the team manager and coach.

**Where required the club provides each team kit with some helmets that can be shared, but it is recommended that each player provides their own.**

**For health reasons each player should purchase their own protector.**

**It is a requirement that by early in the season each player in U14 and U16 age groups provide their own ball for training.** If unsure the coach or team manager can advise the type of ball required for the age group.

**Please label all personal clothing and equipment with the players name.**

Helmets and protectors are compulsory for all age groups and must be worn when batting or wicket keeping during training and on match days.

On Match days all junior players are required to wear

- Official club polo shirts (provided at the beginning of the season to players or available for purchase) or a similarly colored shirt as the club shirt
- Standard white crickets pants or agreed colored pants for one day games
- Preferably white socks and predominantly white runners. Players must not have metal spikes or metal protrusions on their footwear unless playing on turf wickets.
- An official club cap (provided at the beginning of the season to players or available for purchase), the club cap or a white broad brim hat must be worn for sun protection.
- **Suntan lotion is essential. The club does not provide suntan lotion.**

It is anticipated that players will have official club attire to wear on match days. In cooler weather it is advised that a cricket vest or polar fleece is also worn. These are available from the club, please enquire with your Team Manager or Coach for additional information.

#### ***8.5. Training and Conduct***

Training days and times will be announced before the start of the season with venue dates and times posted on the club website and communicated to last seasons players.

Players are required to wear hats and sunscreen and bring an adequate sized water bottle to training.

During training all players must pay attention to what is happening to avoid the risk of being hit by a ball. **All parents and siblings are to remain a safe distance away from the nets – preferably to the side.**

Parents wanting to assist with training should discuss this with the coach or team manager prior to training. Any parent wanting to discuss a matter with a coach or team manager is encouraged to do so but is requested to do this prior to or after training – so the coaches and team managers can focus on the players during training.

## *8.6. Junior Grades Season Information*

The Junior Cricket season begins in early October.

Teams will be selected once the registration process is complete. The club will endeavour to place players, particularly younger players, into teams, with consideration to friendship groups and preferred days of play.

At the end of the season, late March, Keilor Cricket Club will host a presentation event where players, teams and coaches are recognised for their efforts during the season. This event is the final club event for the season. All club members, players and families are encouraged to attend.

Final communication of date, time and venue of these events will be sent to all junior members via email prior to the scheduled date and will be posted on the club website.

End of Season Awards to be presented for teams will be -

- U10/s - achievement award to all players
- U12/s - Bowling, Batting, Club and Coaches awards
- U14/s - Bowling, Batting, Club and Coaches awards
- U16/s - Bowling, Batting, Club and Coaches awards
- "The Trent Murphy Memorial Shield" – U16 Junior Club Champion

## *8.7. Team Grading and Player Selection*

The Keilor Cricket Club has the following objectives on player participation:

- To offer equal opportunities to all children to play cricket.
- To offer opportunity and equitable participation to each junior player (to ensure that batting, bowling and wicket keeping are rotated around each player)..
- To offer opportunity for performing players to experience higher levels of cricket within their age group.

The NWMCA maintains a number of grades in each under age level. These grades are provided to ensure teams and the players within teams are able to compete and contribute thus enjoying their time playing Cricket. The club's focus is on participation, fun and improving skills. Playing to win at all cost is not a club priority.

In circumstances where Keilor Cricket Club has more than one team in an under age level, the coaches of each team will work together to ensure:

- Players are selected into teams basis their ability, family requirements and established player friendships (particularly for U10 and U12 players)
- Players are not playing in a team/ grade where they are intimidated or fearful of their safety.

- Players who perform well in lower grades within an age group are provided an opportunity to play and participate at a higher level within that age group.
- Parents are engaged and advised of team changes and the reasons.

At U16 and for A and B grades of U14 cricket; grading of players will become important to ensure that players neither play at too high nor too low a level, so that they enjoy the game and improve their cricket and enable Keilor Cricket Club to field competitive teams in the competition.

Grading will be a priority for U16's where players are more likely to be developing specialist skills and have more defined roles within the team. Grading will be strongly considered at U14's and be one of a number of considerations at U12's.

Coaches, past and present, will be consulted to assist with the grading process. The process will be reviewed each season as it is dependent on the grades that are allocated to the club by the NWMCA each season.

Early in the season players may be selected in different teams as coaches become familiar with their abilities and the level of competition that will ensure the player enjoys their cricket. However once settled in a team no player is expected to stand down more than once in any season regardless of ability. However, attitude and behavior at training are criteria a coach is entitled to use in determining team composition.

## *8.8. Match Day Requirements*

Players are expected to arrive to the designated ground at least 20 minutes before the start of play.

If a player is unable to play on a specific day the coach and team manager should be given adequate prior notice so alternative arrangements for additional players can be made. **A no show without explanation is unfair to the team and to the coach.**

All players and parents should make themselves familiar with the Keilor Cricket Club code for conduct and etiquette, which is available on the club website.

## *8.9. Junior Player Fixtures/Ladders/Statistics*

Throughout the season results of each match will be recorded on the My Cricket website. You are able to access the information on this site to view ladders, fixtures and personal statistics Go to [mycricket.cricket.com.au](http://mycricket.cricket.com.au) , the Keilor Cricket Club website <http://keilorcc.vic.cricket.com.au> or the Keilor CC Team App



## 9. *Keilor CC Code of Conduct*

The following are principles that are endorsed by the club. Keilor Cricket Club expects all players to abide by these principles as they are representing the Keilor Cricket Club on and off the field.

**Always remember “The Spirit of the Game” involves RESPECT for:**

- **Your opponents**
- **Your own captain, team and coach**
- **The role of the umpires**
- **The game's traditional values**
  
- Watch the team and not just your child
- Always act as good role models and ambassadors for the club
- Never use offensive language or behavior
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Display consistently high standards of good sporting behavior including respecting the official's decisions and playing by the rules.
- Adhere to and support the Club policies and co-operate with club officials, coaches and team managers
- Be trustworthy
- Always welcome opposition players, spectators, officials etc to the club
- Enjoy your cricket and being an important member of the Keilor Cricket Club.
- Never use offensive language or behavior towards anyone or engage in sledging or bullying of any person
- Never behave in a manner that would damage the reputation of the club either on or off the field
- Never criticise or ridicule your teammates, treat everyone in your team equally.
- In times of disappointment make sure your behavior and language are acceptable.
- When your team is batting, sit together as a team and support your batsmen.
- Give 100% support to your teammates, both on and off the field.
- Respect the Club's equipment and facilities at training and on Game Day.
- Help with packing up equipment and team kits after practice and match days.

The saying, “if you can't play sport, be a sport” underpins our primary policy on playing. Win or lose – be a sport! The club expects parents to support this policy. The coach represents the club management and will exercise the policy that all team members get even handed treatment.

## **10. Parent Information**

### **10.1. Parent Participation - Your kids need you!**

The Keilor Cricket Club understands that parents have other priorities and jobs. However, players, especially at younger levels, gain reward from support provided by their parents; as such we encourage parents to try and get to games. In addition, the Keilor Cricket Club is about "community" and coming to the games is a great way to meet new people.

The Keilor Cricket Club is run by volunteers. Parents are encouraged to support their children by volunteering their time to help spread the workload on match days, creating an enjoyable environment for players and supporters alike.

Committee members and coaches are always available to assist if you want to know how you can help. Please don't assume that all the jobs are taken care of - more hands on deck lighten the load. Being involved has great rewards from meeting new friends to knowing that you have helped to run your child's sporting event smoothly and efficiently. A roster will be prepared, and jobs will be allocated for match days.

Remember that children are involved for their enjoyment and the focus is on effort and performance rather than winning and losing. Respect the decisions of officials and team coaches and teach children to do likewise.

The Keilor Cricket Club is always looking for parents willing to coach or perform other roles at the club. If interested, please contact the Junior Coordinator. Details on the requirements of coaches and team managers can be found on the club website, <http://keilorcc.vic.cricket.com.au/>.

### **10.2. Training Day Requirements**

Encourage your child to train in a manner with the same intent and purpose that is required under match conditions.

Ensure players bring cricket gear, personal protector, sunscreen, hat and drink to all sessions. Parents are asked to be mindful of the coaches need to keep the players moving through the training schedule. If parents are not involved in assisting with training, they are respectfully asked to stay away from the training area and ask questions of the coach after the training session is over.

If you have to leave your child during training, please ensure that your child's coach / team manager has your contact details. Your child must be collected PROMPTLY at the end of the session.

### **10.3. Match Day Conduct**

When your child is selected in a team, the child and the parents are representing everyone associated with the Keilor Cricket Club. As a courtesy to your coaches, teammates, other players and club associates, we urge you to act responsibly & to observe the "Spirit of the Game" code.

- Ensure that you and your child are familiar with the Club Code of Conduct and set an example and support them in behaving in accordance with the Code of Conduct (see section 9).
- Adhere to the smoke-free policies of the club
- Do not consume alcohol in any place other than where the club's license allows

- If your child is unable to play, or you are going to be late please advise your child's coach as early as is possible.
- If you will not be at the ground for the duration of the match, inform the team manager of your arrangements for your child.
- Please have your child arrive on time, at least 20 minutes before play is scheduled to begin.
- Encourage your child to be responsible; being appropriately dressed and having all the necessary gear required in his/her kit. See section 8.4.
- Please make sure that sunscreen has been applied prior to doing warmups.
- Assist the coach and team manager if necessary in setting up for the days play and during the match with scoring, umpiring and supervising players.
- Encourage and support the team and your child in a positive constructive manner.
- Avoid the "Ugly Sport Parent Syndrome". These types of parents are not welcome at the Keilor Cricket Club. Be aware players do get confused with parents yelling from the sidelines. Do not get involved in disputes or disagreements during play.

## 10.4. Complaints

As a Junior Club our emphasis is one of player involvement and enjoyment.

If you have an issue or complaint that you wish to pursue, please contact your child's coach or team manager. If this is not acceptable, please contact the junior coordinator, president or vice-president of the Keilor Cricket Club to raise the issue. All club members are equally important and will be treated as such and your privacy will be respected.