

## **BEECROFT FOOTBALL CLUB**

# MINIROOS FAQ

#### What is Mini's Football

Minis Football is a great, fun way to stimulate your child's sporting ability at an early age. **Designed for "minis" aged from 5 up to 8**, the non-competitive environment focuses on fun and participation, above all else. When a child enjoys the sport and plays alongside similar-minded minis, they will naturally develop an affinity for the game. Along with parental encouragement, minis will develop their coordination at a pace that they are comfortable with, regardless of what age they start.

## Why Beecroft FC?

At Beecroft Football Club, we encourage minis of any age under 8 to join the club and experience the camaraderie of the people in our local community. We are a "fun first" club; that is, we highly encourage minis to enjoy the game and to have fun, above all else.

#### When does the season start and finish?

A typical season commences in late March/early April and finishes in late August.

## **Training**

U6 and U7 training is held on Monday nights from 5:00 – 6:00 at Cheltenham Oval.

U8 and U9 training is held on Wednesday nights from 5:00 – 6:00 at Cheltenham Oval.

All Beecroft Minis teams are encouraged to take part in our cooperative training sessions. These sessions are held by professional trainers who run the coaches and minis through a series of drills focusing on ball handling, ball control and general gameplay.

Typically, there is no training on public holidays or during school holidays.

#### **Matches**

All matches are played at various grounds in the local area. Match times vary from 8 am to midday. Matches for mixed teams are on Saturday mornings. Matches for girls' teams are on Sunday mornings.

The full season's fixtures will be available online via **DRIBL** prior to the season commencing.

#### **Team Formation**

The Beecroft FC committee strongly believe that teams should pick themselves based on friendships within their immediate schools and the community. Not only does this build a stronger team rapport, but minis will play the entire season together (some 18 weeks) and will get to know each other very well by the end of the season giving valuable opportunities for friendships amongst players and parents alike. Minis that are in the same school, in the same grade, and even in the same class typically exhibit better cohesion in their gameplay as they inherently feel more comfortable around other minis they see (and play with) on a more regular basis. Every year in mid-February we hold a team forming day at Cheltenham Oval to group the kids into prospective teams.

## **Divisions and Rankings**

To ensure that games are played between similarly skilled teams each season, teams are ranked, or "graded", before the start of each season. Note that it's the teams that are graded, not individual players, although the presence of a strong individual(s) will sway the grading of the team. Our grading of teams closely follows NWSF guidelines.

## **Mixed Comp or Girls Comp?**

The Mixed competition is predominantly made up of boys, however, girls are welcome (and encouraged!) to join this competition if they wish. The Girls' competition is for girls only.

Matches are played at various grounds in the local area. Mixed teams play on Saturday mornings and girls' teams play on Sunday mornings.

## **Age Brackets**

The club is part of the **North West Sydney Football Association (NWSF)**. Every year, we typically enter numerous teams into three distinct age brackets:

- Under 6s: for those minis turning 5 or 6 in the current calendar year
- Under 7s: for those minis turning 7 in the current calendar year
- Under 8s: for those minis turning 8 in the current calendar year.

#### Rules

As part of the NWSF district, we follow their rules. One important aspect to note is that these rules are to be treated as a guide. That's because the games are non-competitive, and this means there should not be "strict" enforcement of these rules. Remember that minis are out in the field to have fun, not to have their games interrupted for every small misdemeanour observed!

## Registration - How much does it cost?

Registration is done online and can be accessed through our website.

Player registration fees for Beecroft Wombats can be viewed <u>here</u>. You are entitled to use your <u>NSW Government Active Kids Voucher</u> during registration which provides a \$100 rebate - please note that this cannot be added after registration is completed.

#### **Uniforms**

The club provides a jersey on loan for the season. This will be given to you by your coach/manager prior to the season. You will need to return this at the end of the season.

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You will need to purchase club shorts and socks. These can be purchased from the canteen during preseason season training or on matchdays. They can also be purchased online from the BWFC Uniform Shop.

All players are required to wear football boots and shin pads. These can be purchased at your local sports retailer e.g., Rebel.

#### **Coaches and Managers**

Parents are encouraged to participate as coaches, assistant coaches, and managers, and are provided with all the resources required to support their team. No experience is required. **Every team must have a coach and a manager to be viable**. The club engages a professional coaching company that assists coaches with training. All training sessions are set up by our professional coaches and the program for each session is viewable online before training sessions via an app.

A coaches and managers night is held before every season to provide you with the required resources and information for successfully coaching and managing your team.

## **Special Events**

Every year, we hold our annual **Beecroft FC Gala Day** where every team participates in a friendly clash with other Beecroft FC teams. On Gala Day, all Beecroft FC Minis receive their medallion/trophy for participation – most definitely one of the highlights of the calendar year for the kids!

Any questions, please contact the Mini's Coordinator at minis@beecroftfc.com.au

#### **Further resources:**

**NWSF** website

**NWSF MiniRoos website** 

Football Australia - Play Football MiniRoos