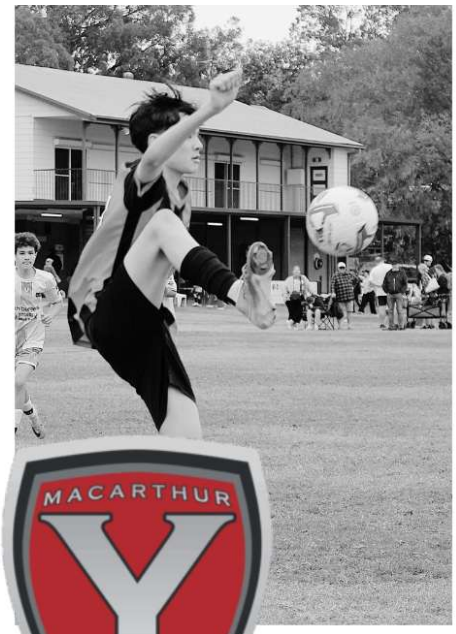

MACARTHUR LEAGUE

MYL 2027

PLAYER & PARENT HANDBOOK

Welcome

For over 40 years, Camden Falcons FC has been more than a club – we're a family-friendly community where players of all ages and abilities come together to enjoy football.

From MiniRoos and junior community teams to Macarthur Youth League (MYL), M-League Colts, and senior squads competing at the highest levels of community football, the Falcons offer a place for everyone – whether you're here for the social connection, skill development, or the thrill of competitive play.

Our home is where football and community unite – a place to train, compete, cheer, and celebrate the game we love.

By accepting a position in a Camden Falcons FC MYL team, you acknowledge your commitment to the club as a representative of CFFC. This handbook outlines the expectations, responsibilities, and standards of conduct for all players and parents involved in our MYL program.

The Falcons Way

Mission Statement
Bringing a passion for the World Game to the Camden community.
Vision
World Game | Camden Community
Values
Integrity | Community | Inclusion | Development | Competitive

Volunteers

Our success wouldn't be possible without the tireless efforts of our dedicated committee and volunteers. Volunteering is a fantastic way to meet new people, develop skills, and make a real difference. From small tasks to big projects, there's a role for everyone to ensure the club runs smoothly—both on and off the field—for the enjoyment of our families.

- Volunteers are essential.
- Teams are expected to assist with setup, pack down, and other game-day tasks.
- Contact the Club Secretary to register your interest in assisting the club.

The Football We Play

The Falcons are proud to compete in the Macarthur Youth League (MYL) – the premier Division 1 youth competition in the region, run by the Macarthur Football Association (MFA). The MYL provides a pathway bridging community football and representative levels.

Our football philosophy focuses on:

- **Development:** improving individual skills, team play, and game understanding.
- **Balanced, proactive football**: possession-based play with quick transitions, disciplined defending.
- **Progressive training**: technical foundations at younger ages evolve into tactical, physical, and decision-making development as players mature.

MYL teams represent the top level of Camden Falcons' junior football pathway and are expected to uphold sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect at all times.

Belief from Players and Parents / Extra Commitment

Playing in the MYL program requires dedication and a growth mindset.

- The club encourages extra individual work outside team sessions (ball mastery, fitness, recovery).
- Training is mandatory two nights per week.
- Goal Keepers are provided an extra night of small group training by A1 Football Academy.
- Players must maintain high attendance, focus, and consistency.
- Resilience is required – players should learn to respond positively to challenges and feedback.
- Parents and supporters play a key role in creating a positive environment. Negative sideline comments or criticism can affect performance – Falcons expect all sideline behaviour be supportive and respectful.

Game Day

Competition Overview

- Camden Falcons MYL teams participate in the Macarthur Youth League (U13–U18).
- MYL provides the opportunity to compete against the strongest clubs across the Macarthur region.
- The competition includes a home-and-away season followed by a Top 4 Finals Series:
    - Week 1: Major Semi (1st v 2nd) & Elimination Semi (3rd v 4th)
    - Week 2: Preliminary Final
    - Week 3: Grand Final

Additional Opportunities

- **Player Pathways**: identified players are given the opportunity as they arise to train and play games with older age groups at the discretion of the team coach.
- **State Cup**: MYL teams may be nominated to represent the club in this prestigious statewide competition.
- **Champion of Champions**: MYL Premiers will advance to this post-season event.

- **MFA Talent Development Program (TDP)**: MYL players demonstrating strong performance and potential may be invited into MFA's TDP, offering advanced training, technical development, and exposure to higher representative pathways.

Game Time

- For U13-U18 MYL teams, coaches will aim for fair playing time across the season.
- Playing time may vary weekly based on:
    - Attendance and punctuality
    - Attitude and effort
    - Training performance and form
    - Fitness and match readiness
    - Tactical or opposition considerations
- For U13-U15 players are expected to arrive 45 minutes before game or have respectfully notified Coach/Manager the reason for late arrival.
- For U16-Colts players are expected to arrive 1 hour before game or have respectfully Coach/Manager the reason for late arrival.

If concerns arise regarding playing time, this should be discussed confidentially and respectfully in the first instance with the coach through the appropriate communication channels.

Club Expectations / Communication

- Email is the club's primary communication channel.
- Teams may use WhatsApp or Facebook groups for internal updates – use these responsibly and respectfully.
- Be cautious with social media: posts, photos, or comments should never bring the club, team, or league into disrepute.
- Parents should not approach coaches directly at training or on game day. Please raise any concerns via the team official first.

Training

- Training for MYL teams is compulsory two nights per week.
- Sessions generally run through to finals (mid-August).
- Players must arrive at least 10 minutes early to sessions to ensure readiness and punctuality.
- Early arrivals are encouraged to work on juggling, first touch, or small passing games.
- Sessions are rarely cancelled – attendance is expected unless illness or injury prevents participation.
- Notify the team official via the team chat group as soon as possible if unable to attend training.

Training Up & Standing By

- Selected players may occasionally train up with an older MYL age group if identified by coaching staff for development opportunities.
- On match day, players borrowed from lower division age groups may be required to fill in for unavailable teammates.
- These opportunities are part of the player development pathway.

Codes of Conduct / Behavioural Expectations

All players, coaches, parents, and spectators must adhere to the Camden Falcons FC Codes of Conduct. Key expectations are summarised below. The full Code is available at:
https://camdenfalcons.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Codes-of-Conduct-Final.pdf

Player Expectations

- Always play to the best of your ability and for the benefit of the team.
- Play fairly, follow the rules, and respect teammates, opponents, and referees.
- Be gracious in victory or defeat – shake hands with opponents and officials.
- Listen to and follow coach and manager directions.
- Maintain good training attendance (two sessions weekly minimum unless excused).
- Provide weekly availability and be punctual for both training and matchday.
- Wear the correct Camden Falcons kit (training and game day).
- Stay hydrated and maintain healthy nutrition habits.
- Players who fail to adhere may receive verbal or written cautions or further disciplinary action under club or MFA policy.

Coach / Manager Expectations

- Create a safe, enjoyable, and development-focused environment.
- Prioritise learning and fair play over results.
- Communicate clearly with players and parents via the Team Official.
- Respect officials and opposition teams.
- Follow the club's safeguarding, injury, and conduct policies.

Parent / Guardian Expectations

- Remember that football is for enjoyment as well as competition.
- Applaud effort and sportsmanship, not just results.
- Respect referee decisions and avoid giving instructions from the sideline.
- Never use offensive or abusive language or behaviour.
- Remain behind designated spectator areas.
- Support all players and promote a positive club culture.

Spectator Expectations

- Respect referees and officials at all times.
- Do not ridicule players for mistakes.

- Avoid negative or discriminatory comments.
- Follow all venue rules and directions from match or ground officials.

Safeguarding / Member Protection

- Camden Falcons FC upholds strict safeguarding standards and a zero-tolerance policy for abuse or harassment.
- All coaches, managers, and volunteers must hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC).
- Our Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) provides confidential support for any concerns.
- If a child is believed to be at risk, contact the relevant authorities (e.g. Police 000).
- MPIO Contact Form: https://camdenfalcons.com.au/contact-us/feedback-and-complaints/

Media / Photography / Videography

- By registering with Camden Falcons FC, players acknowledge that photos or videos may be taken at club events for promotional use.
- The club uses these images to share achievements and promote community engagement.
- As a courtesy, team officials are encouraged to seek parental consent before posting images on team or club pages.
- If you have concerns about photography or filming, notify your Team Official or Coach immediately.

Medical / Injury / Health

- Report all injuries to the coach or team official immediately – do not hide or minimise them.
- Follow RICE (Rest, Ice, Compression, Elevation) for soft tissue injuries.
- Adhere to medical advice and Football Australia's Concussion Guidelines.
- Maintain proper nutrition and hydration before, during, and after games.

Feedback & Complaints / Grievance Procedures

Feedback

The club values constructive feedback. Please email the Club Secretary.

Complaints Process

1. Raise the matter verbally with the Team Official.
2. If unresolved, submit a written complaint to the MPIO or Club Committee.

Fees

We are committed to making MYL football accessible for families who wish to play high level community-level football. MYL registration fees are consistent with other divisions, ensuring fairness and affordability. (*2026 U13-16 $305, U18 $330, TBC 2027 Season due in January 2027*)

An additional On/Off-Field Uniform Kit Fee (*2026 $225, TBC 2027 Season*) is required by MFA for MYL teams. This payment is to be made on acceptance of position after Trials in November 2026.

This includes:

- Home playing strip (jersey) - personalised
- Alternate/training strip (jersey) - personalised
- Club polo, jacket, tracksuit pants, shorts, socks and gear bag

Contacts

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