



Vice-Presidents Welcome

Welcome to all players and families for the 2009 soccer season. I trust this year will prove a good year for soccer and for the club with plenty of new supporters of the club taking on positions with the committee.

At this early stage, I would like to inform new members to the club of how the club generally forms teams. First, if the majority of players in a team from last year return to the club, then we will make every endeavor to keep those teams together again this year. For the U6 mini teams, we will form teams primarily based on the school kindergarten class lists so that the kids are familiar with their teammates and it is quite often the case that this also assists the parents in forming stronger team based relationships which also helps the club operate in future years. For the U8's who will be transitioning to the full field this year, the club executive will determine teams based on the number of children who return from last year's teams. Once registration is complete (in mid February), the club executive will begin to form the teams.

We will hold our first training clinic at Daniel St Park on the 20th of February (a Friday afternoon) from 5pm to 6pm. This training clinic will be very informal and primarily a questions and answer time for parents while the kids have a run around in their age groups (no teams will be formed at this time). On this first training clinic, we will also be finalizing out standing registration issues (there are always a few!).

We will then hold a second training clinic on the 27th February (again a Friday afternoon) from 5pm to 6pm. At the start of this clinic, we will advertise team lists at the clubhouse. The teams will then be asked to come together and decide on a coach, a co-coach and a manager. These positions in the team will be held by one of the parents of the kids in the team. The coach of all U6 and U7 team will be able to run on the mini field with the kids on Saturday, while the U8 coach will be allowed to run on the field in the first part of the season to assist the kids co-ordinate their field positions on the big field. Please note that no experience is necessary to take up a coaching or managing role in the club, we will help as much as possible with new starters willing to have a go. The co-coach is required to assist during training and during absence of the coach on weekends. The manager will be the point of contact for the team with the clubs committee. All teams will also be asked to nominate a night to train and a starting and finishing time for that training (usually 1 hour between 5pm and 7pm). We will then allocate half a field per hour, per team so that each team is not training through or over other teams. Please consider being a coach or manager of your kids team, it can be personally very fulfilling and it is vital for the kids that one of the parents commits to it. Following our second training clinic, we will aim to hold trial games on the 21st and 28th of March. The first competition game will be played on the 4th of April.

I would like to remind every member of the club, that parents of kids in the club who take up a voluntary unpaid committee position operate the OLQP Falcons Soccer Club. Therefore, all committee members are being very kind to give up some of their time to assist the other members of the club. Please show every committee member your utmost respect, as without their help we would have no club.

Last year I made significant changes to the clubs attitude to Sports Rage. In short – this year I will refine that attitude even further and enforce the rule that we will have zero tolerance to sports rage from the season start. As a condition of joining the club all parents, guardians and players must agree to advocate and practice principles devoid of sports rage. It has always been my aim as president of this club to provide a fun and safe environment for all kids in the soccer association (not just our club) and I see this as being achieved with no sports rage what so ever. I will make a commitment to all members of our club to act firmly and justly with the intent of zero tolerance on sports rage from the outset of this year. The NSW Government website www.dsr.nsw.gov.au has information, which you can access concerning sports rage.

You may notice that this is a Vice President's welcome and not a President's welcome. That is because last year I noted that I would like someone new to step up and take the president's role of this great club. This will have been my 7th year with the committee since my son joined the club in the U6 mini's and he will play his final year with the club in U12 this year.

With my experience as President of the committee over the last 2 years, I have implemented some changes to relieve most of the duties of president and share them with other committee members. Therefore, this year the presidents role should be significantly reduced as compared to past years and so I would welcome anyone who offers to assist in this role and I will give my full support to him or her in a transition.

To date no one has put himself or herself forward for the presidents role so I will continue to perform the presidents duties until we find ourselves a new leader this year. If you would like to have a go, then please come and see me or call me on the number below.

I look forward to meeting you during the year. If you see me on the grounds then don't be shy to have a chat.

Kind Regards,
Mark Giacoppo,
2009 Club Vice President,
Mobile: 0404 478 744

Dates To Remember

Rego Friday's	: 30 th Jan and 6 th Feb, 3pm to 4pm at the OLQP School near school office
Rego Saturday's	: 31 st Jan and 7 th Feb, 10am to 12 noon at the Daniel Street Park
Training Clinic #1	: Friday 20 th Feb 5pm to approx 6:00pm at Daniel St Soccer Park
Training Clinic #2	: Friday 27 th Feb 5pm to approx 6:00pm at Daniel St Soccer Park
21 st March, 28 th March	: Trial Games
4 th April	: First Competition Game. You will be advised of the time by your manager as the date approaches.