

# Clyde Cougars Junior Football Club

## Player Registration Policy 2025



### Rationale

At the Clyde Cougars Junior Football Club (CJFC), we are committed to fostering a welcoming, inclusive, and family-friendly environment where players of all abilities can develop their skills and enjoy the game of football. Parental involvement plays a key role in our operations, and we strive to maintain a clear, transparent, and fair registration process for all participants.

### Aim

To provide junior players of all skills, abilities, and backgrounds the opportunity to participate in and enjoy football at Clyde Cougars Junior Football Club.

### Registration Process

The CJFC will advertise pre-registration and registration dates annually. These dates may vary depending on AFL South East (AFLSE) guidelines.

1. **Pre-Registration:** Families are encouraged to pre-register when invited by October 31<sup>st</sup> each year, as this streamlines the registration process for both families and the club.
2. **Registration via Play HQ:** Families must complete the registration process through Play HQ once it is open. An invoice for any remaining balance will be provided prior to the registration deadline.
3. **Fee Payment Options:**
  - A \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration, with full payment due by **Round 2** of the season.
  - Families experiencing financial hardship can contact the Treasurer at [treasurer@clydefc.com.au](mailto:treasurer@clydefc.com.au) to arrange a payment plan before the registration deadline.
  - Families eligible for the **Active Kids Voucher** may use the \$200 voucher as full payment. No deposit is required, and no further discounts apply.
4. **Late Registrations:** Players registering after **Round 4** will receive a pro-rata registration fee.

### Fees for 2024

1. **Standard Fee:** \$230 per player.
2. **Discounts:**
  - Early Bird Discount: Families who pay their fees in full prior to the 28th of February 2025 are eligible for a \$30 per player.
  - Sibling Discount: Siblings of existing players receive a 10% discount off their fees.
  - PLEASE NOTE: Families are not able to claim the Early Bird discount & the Sibling Discount at the same time.
3. **Inclusions:** Registration includes the loan of a club jumper, which must be returned at the end of the season. A \$70 fee applies for unreturned jumpers.
4. **Extras:** Club shorts, socks, and mouthguards are mandatory and available for purchase.

### No Pay, No Play Policy

Players are required to settle their registration fees by **Round 2** of the season. Players with unpaid fees are deemed "un-financial" and will not be permitted to train or play until payment is received or a payment plan is arranged.

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### Age Eligibility

1. Players must turn **7 years old by 30th April** to be eligible to play in the Under 8s.
2. Players are placed in teams based on their age as of **1st January** of the season year (e.g., a child turning 9 in 2025 will play in Under 9s).
3. Exceptional requests to "play up" an age group will be reviewed by the Registrar, Football Director, Coach, and parents/guardians to ensure it is safe and appropriate for the player. Players moving back to their correct age group will be subject to team vacancies. (Please refer to the 'Playing Up Policy' for more information)

### Vacancies and Team Placement

Team placement is determined by the Registrar and Football Director based on team vacancies and player eligibility:

- Returning players and siblings of returning players are given priority during registration (if completed prior to October 31<sup>st</sup>).
- New players are placed based on the date of registration and fee payment.
- Requests to play in specific teams will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.

### Transfers and Clearances

1. Players transferring to CJFC from another club cannot train until a 'Permission to Train Form' is received and cannot play until the transfer is confirmed by the Registrar.
2. Players transferring from CJFC must settle any outstanding fees and return all club property before a clearance is granted.

### Refusal of Registration

The Clyde Cougars Junior Football Club reserves the right to refuse registration to a player or family if their behaviour, actions, or values are deemed inconsistent with the core values of the club, which include respect, inclusivity, teamwork, and community spirit. Families who wish to appeal such a decision may submit a written request for review via email to the Registrar. The matter will then be reviewed and voted on by the Executive Committee, with the outcome communicated to the family in a timely manner. This process ensures fairness and alignment with the club's commitment to maintaining a positive and supportive environment for all members.

### Commitment to Inclusivity

The Clyde Cougars Junior Football Club is proud to welcome players and families from all backgrounds and skill levels. We are committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where every child can thrive and enjoy their football journey.

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