

U9's at Croydon North MLOC

Club Nickname: KangaRams

Home Ground: Hughes Park Croydon North

Coach: Andy Fitzsimons (0407881903)

Team Manager: Michelle Watts (0419220686)



Welcome to Under 9s (U9's) at Croydon North MLOC in 2024! Our under 9's team is a mixed (boys & girls) team. We are a family focused club which aims to provide a fun, friendly and inclusive environment for our families to learn the skills to play football. We value family participation and are looking to support and develop our junior footballers. Please find below key information for the season.

Player age eligibility to play U9's in 2024.

Eastern Football and Netball League (EFNL) rules state that players born between the following dates will be eligible to play **U 9's: 01/01/2015 – 31/12/2015.**

Season Start Date

The 2024 season for under 9's will begin on Sunday 7th April 2024. Training will commence on Wednesday 6th March 2024.

Number of rounds.

There are typically 14 rounds played in the season for U9's however this will be confirmed once the ENFL draw is made available.

Training

Under 9 training will be held on **Wednesdays from 5-6pm at Hughes Park. We strongly encourage parents to watch their kids train and assist in the drills or just support the players.** Our clubroom facilities are available to parents and spectators on most training nights.

Game Day

Location of Games

Under 9's will play a home and away fixture. Our Home games will be at Hughes Park.

Arrival on game day

Players should be at grounds 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the game, in uniform, to sign in with team manager, warm up and receive last minute instructions from their coaches.

Game scoring

Under 9's games are non-competition this means no scoring or premiership ladder. This provides players the opportunity to have fun learning both knowledge and skills of the game as part of a team.

Game Format

- Our team will be divided into two equal groups who each play their own game.
- For each group there will be a minimum of 7 and maximum of 9 players on the field (must be equal number for both teams) and up to 4 players on the bench.
- Players will rotate between positions each game.
- A size 2 synthetic football will be used for all games.
- Each quarter will be 10 minutes, with a 5-minute break between each quarter.
- There will be one EFNL umpire per a game.

Modified rules for U9's

Rules are modified for under 9's to minimise risk and to provide everyone with the opportunity to be involved. Key rules are:

- No tackling
- No kicking the ball off the ground (deliberately)
- No shepherding or stealing the ball.
- No bouncing the ball
- No play on or advantage
- Yellow cards: bench for 15 minutes can return.
- Red card: player is unable to participate any further in the game. The team can play another player as a replacement (i.e. a player on the bench)

Parents/NOK/Carer on Game Day

Parent assistance is required on game day. Roles will be assigned by the team manager to parents and will be rotated to all player families.

Roles may include:

- Trainer
- Timekeeper
- Umpire Escort

In the unfortunate event of player injury, it is helpful if their parent or guardian is present. Please notify the team manager if you are not available for any weeks to assist with roles. **If you are unable to complete your allocated role, please arrange for another parent/NOK to cover your role and then notify the team manager.**

We do request that all parents/NOK/ helpers have a current working with children's check volunteer <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children> As any on field role involves working with children (players and umpires)

Required Player Uniform and Equipment.

The club will provide each player a playing jumper at the beginning of the season. Playing jumpers are to be returned to the team manager after the last game. All U9 players receive playing shorts and socks as part of the playing fees.

Players will need their own:

- Football boots
- Mouthguard (compulsory for training and matches, evidence indicates role in concussion minimisation)
- Head guard/helmet (optional)

Mouth Guards

A cost-effective mouldable mouthguard may be purchased from your local chemist. Sports stores such as Rebel stock a range of mid-priced gel mouth guards which you then mould to your child's mouth. Alternatively, a properly fitted one (which is recommended) can be made by your family dentist. This cost may be subsidised under your private health insurance policy but check with your insurer first.

Attendance at Games and Training

The Coach and Club expect our players to attend all training sessions and games, but we understand this is not always possible. **Always notify the Team Manager if your child is unable to participate in/ running late for training or matches.**

KEY DATES: Training begins Wednesday 6th March; First Game Sunday 7th April; No games Sunday 9th June Kings Birthday Holiday, School Holiday Bye Sunday 7th July; Last Game Sunday 21st July 2024.