

Welcome to the Kiwi Hawthorn Rugby Club!

Our goal is to grow the game of rugby in Australia, so we're excited that you're joining Kiwi Hawthorn Juniors and playing this wonderful game!

This welcome pack contains some introductory information about our Club and our Junior Program for new or returning families. Should you have any questions about its contents or any other aspect of our Juniors Program, please do not hesitate to contact me, your team coach or manager.

Child Safety

We are committed to providing a safe and fun environment for kids to learn new skills and enjoy the game of rugby.

Key to that commitment is that kids feel safe at all times and to support that aim we have adopted the Victorian Government Child Safety guidelines which encourages Children and Parents/Carers to speak up when they feel unsafe.

If you have any concerns regarding the safety of your children while they are involved with the Club, please raise them with your child's Coach, their Team Manager, the Junior Coordinator or our Club's Child Welfare Officer as per the overview on the following pages.

Code of conduct

As an affiliated Club of the Australian Rugby Union (ARU), we support the ARU's Code of Conduct that applies to all players, parents and supporters and can be summed up for Juniors and their families as:

1. Do not abuse the referees, coaches or players
2. Avoid swearing
3. Support your team – do not abuse the opposition

To maintain the encouraging, positive culture of our Junior Program and Junior Rugby in Victoria, breaches of the Code of Conduct will be treated seriously and may result in sanctions against players or supporters.

Helping out

To deliver a great rugby experience for you and your family, our club relies on volunteers and so we encourage all parents to get involved in any way they can: coaching, assisting coaches, managing teams, being first aid officer, photographer or canteen helper – please do not be limited by what you think you may be able to contribute as we have guides and the support of other volunteers to help you, but most importantly the kids love it when you're involved as well.

Our proud history

Kiwi Hawthorn Rugby Union Football Club is the only rugby club that is a combination of two of the great powerhouses of world rugby: New Zealand and Australia.

New Zealand servicemen formed the Kiwi Club in 1923, while the Old Scotch Rugby Club was started in the 1930s by old boys of the school. Old Scotch later became known as the Hawthorn Rugby Club and merged with the Kiwi Club in 1987 to become the Kiwi Hawthorn Rugby Club.

Our club is a proud celebration of the close ties that have long existed between Australia and New Zealand. We warmly welcome all nationalities that now make up the multicultural world rugby community.

Thank you again for joining us and we look forward to a successful 2018.

Mark Russell
Junior Coordinator
Kiwi Hawthorn Rugby Club
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