

Brothers Juniors Ipswich

Season 2024 Handbook



1973 - 2024

Celebrating 51 Years

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	3
JUNIOR CLUB CAPTAINS	3
CLUB CONTACT DETAILS	3
SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS.....	3
FACILITIES @ BROTHERS LEAGUES CLUB IPSWICH.....	3
WELCOME.....	4
OUR CLUB VISION, MISSION AND VALUES	4
COMMITTEE MEMBERS.....	5
CLUB MESSAGES	5
CANCELLATIONS	5
EMERGENCIES AND EVACUATIONS	5
CODE OF CONDUCT	6
RESPECT, GOOD MANNERS ANS RESPONSIBILITIES	6
REGISTRATION	6
REGISTRATION FEES.....	7
WHAT DO REGISTRATION FEES COVER?.....	7
QLD GOVERNMENT FUNDING ASSISTANCE	7
UNIFORM.....	8
ADMISSION CHARGES.....	8
SUPPORTERS APPAREL	8
THE VAL HOOLAHAN CANTEEN	8
UNIFORM (PLAYING KIT).....	8
SUPPORTERS APPAREL ONLINE	8
THE VAL HOOLAHAN CANTEEN	Error! Bookmark not defined.
ADMISSION CHARGES.....	8
HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER.....	9
BLUE CARD INFORMATION	9
UPDATING PERSONAL DETAILS.....	9
CHILD SAFETY AND INJURIES	9
INJURY NOTIFICATIONS & INSURANCE CLAIMS	10
TREATING MINOR INJURIES & MAINTAINING THE BODY READY TO PLAY AGAIN.....	10
PLAYING GEAR & PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT.....	10
TREATING MINOR INJURIES.....	10
INSURANCE CLAIMS.....	13
GENERAL INFORMATION.....	13
A GUIDE TO SUCCESS.....	13
CLUB SONG	14
COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES FOR MEMBERS	14

****Please do not park in spaces reserved for Leagues Club staff. They need these parks so they can attend work.***

****Bikes, scooters, and skateboards are not permitted within the Football Club Grounds, and we ask all players to abide by these rules and that the Parents/Guardians respect these rules accordingly.***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, who have walked and cared for this land for thousands of years, and their descendants who maintain their spiritual connection and traditions.

We thank them for sharing their cultures, spiritualities and ways of living with the land in this place we play rugby league, and all now call home.

We pay respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

May we continue to walk gently and respectfully together with each other.

JUNIOR CLUB CAPTAINS

2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Steph White	Tyson Dickenson	Tyson Dickenson	Lily Devin	COVID
Dennis Papua	Steph White	Hannah Nugent	Jamie Williams	
	Lachie Phillips			

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club Ipswich Incorporated	
Phone:	0418 952 253
Club Grounds:	Willey Street, Raceview QLD 4305
Postal Address:	The Secretary, PO Box 680, Ipswich QLD 4305
Website:	https://brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au/
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/brothersjnr.ipswich
Email:	info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Club messages are communicated on our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/brothersjnr.ipswich .	

SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS: <https://brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au/sponsors-and-supporters>

Thank you again to our sponsors and supporters for your generous sponsorship. We hope that we will live up to our achievements of previous years and continue to represent your brand with respect.

Members remember to check out our sponsors and supporters by clicking the link above. Many offer a range of different goods and services at great rates for our Brothers Juniors Community.

Should you wish to discuss becoming a Sponsor please email our club Secretary.

Email: info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au



FACILITIES @ BROTHERS LEAGUES CLUB IPSWICH

Brothers Leagues Club Ipswich is not only the building that sits beside our playing field. They are our biggest supporter. Their contribution is not only financial, but they also supply coaching development staff, grounds staff, grounds, equipment, and in-kind business operations.

We encourage you to support the Leagues Club by becoming a member and taking advantage of the great dining and entertainment on offer throughout the year by calling (07) 3817 2999 or by clicking on the link below. A Dress Code applies, no hats, caps or boots to be worn inside.

<https://brothersipswich.com.au>

WELCOME

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.” – Author Unknown

51 years ago, Gerry O’Sullivan (our inaugural Club President) officially welcomed the first juniors to play at the club, I wonder what he would think about this legacy today. Back then the competition started from U9’s, today Brothers Juniors Ipswich fields mixed teams until the start of the U13 age group. Boy’s teams are U13 to U17, whilst the girls’ teams are U13, U15 and U17.

The committee would like to thank players, parents/guardians/caregivers, supporters, and volunteers who participated in 2023 under the Brothers Juniors banner and welcome back those returning for the season 2024.

To all new players, parents/guardians/caregivers, supporters, and volunteer’s a very warm **welcome!**

We do encourage all parents/guardians/caregivers to become involved in the running of your club, to help maintain our goal of providing the best for our present and emerging players. It’s also a good way of meeting other parents/guardians/caregivers and finding out how your club works.

What is our club about? Our club is committed to providing a fun and safe environment for its Members, their Families, their Friends, Sporting Personnel, and others involved with the Club. We provide our players and volunteers with opportunities to upskill in rugby league as a game or administratively and contribute to a community organisation who has established a proud 51-year history.

We encourage all members to contribute by volunteering once or twice in the canteen an hour before your child’s game when playing at home and by reading and understanding the **Brothers JRLFC Ipswich Inc Code of Conduct**.

For our club to continue to improve we need to hear your feedback. Complaints, concerns, or compliments can be emailed to info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au.

OUR CLUB VISION

To be a leading junior sporting club in the Ipswich region that is closely linked to its community. Operating from the best facilities in the region and continue to deliver excellent rugby league outcomes: *a club people can be proud of because of how we play the game, live our lives, conduct business, and engage with the community.*

MISSION STATEMENT

Brothers Juniors Ipswich provides a strong, community focused club for all members to participate as valued, respected and contributing members of our rugby league community: a club where children and adults can be proud of as we continue to develop a strong club culture that encourages continued learning of the game, fun, positivity and safety through our actions and the way in which our club is operated.

OUR VALUES

Brothers Juniors Ipswich continues to develop a strong club culture that underpins our actions and the way in which our Club is operated. Our values define **‘how we do things’** at Brothers Ipswich and defines how we play the game, live our lives, conduct business, and engage with the community.

Our key values are:

Participation - We encourage involvement, commitment, and contribution in all club matters, on and off the field.

Organisation - We undertake sound planning and operate in a coordinated, systematic, and organised manner.

Development - We provide a supportive environment resulting in stimulated players that are inspired to improve, and motivated volunteers that feel supported and appreciated.

Transparent Communication - We believe that open and honest communication is fundamental to our success.

Respect - Have respect for yourself and your ability, your teammates and peers, your volunteers, your opposition and all officials.

Teamwork - By working together and respecting each other we can achieve good things in rugby league.

Sportsmanship - Decisions don’t always go our way. Accept and respect the decision/s in an appropriate way.

Honesty - Be honest to yourself and to others.

Family - We are all different families with different experiences. We value each person’s contribution.

Fun - Enjoy what you do, celebrate your wins and the achievements of others.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		
President	Paulette Henderson-Crofts	president@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Vice President	Ben Wotton	bwotton85@bigpond.com
Secretary & Canteen Coordinator	Nerolie Hoens	info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Treasurer	Turama Lavea (Toots)	brotherstreasurer@hotmail.com

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE			
Registrar	Matt Boyd		brothersregistrar@hotmail.com
Coaching Director	Jason Connors	0403 385 554	jconnors@brothersipswich.com.au

CLUB ADMINISTRATION SUB-COMMITTEE		
Head Sports Trainer	Paulette Henderson-Crofts	president@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Female Pathways Coordinator	Thea white	brothersipswichfemaleteams@gmail.com
FairPlay Vouchers administration	Nerolie Hoens	info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Apparel Coordinator	Jasmine Watt	brothersapparelcoordinator@hotmail.com
Event & Function Coordinator	TBA	info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au
Ground Manager Coordinator	Sean Tou	sean.tou@hotmail.com
Sponsorship Coordinator	Lucy Lavea	brotherssponsorcoordinator@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator U6-U12	Matt Boyd	brothersminimodvolunteercoordinator@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator U13-U17	Paulette Henderson-Crofts	president@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

CLUB ADMINISTRATION		
Draws and Fixtures Coordinator	Michael Williams	info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

CLUB MESSAGES - www.facebook.com/brothersjnr.ipswich

The link above is an important page; ensure you have access to. It is where all updated club messages will be posted throughout the season. **Please check the Facebook page before contacting committee members, coaches and/or team managers.**

MySideline communications will at times be sent by the club. These are always addressed to the email address you have provided to the club via your NRL registration/s.

Please note, our Facebook page is not the appropriate forum to whinge or to be disrespectful about our volunteers or decisions made in the best interests of the club. If your behaviour contravenes the club Code of Conduct, you will be removed from the Club Facebook page.

WEATHER UPDATES

In the event of cancellations, we try our best to post a notification on the Facebook Page for families **by 2.30pm**. Although the rain may stop, trainings and games can still be cancelled **due to the impact the weather has on the fields.** www.facebook.com/brothersjnr.ipswich

EMERGENCIES AND EVACUATIONS

In conjunction with the Brothers Leagues Club, Brothers Juniors evacuation and emergency procedures are reviewed annually.

Our Ground Officials, Duty Officials and/or Brothers Leagues Club staff will be clearly identifiable by their vests, and we ask that you follow their directives. Should extra support be required please approach the staff immediately.

At trainings if First Aid assistance is required ring **0418 952 253** to contact a committee member at the canteen for assistance. If the incident is **serious or life-threatening dial 000 immediately for help.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

By registering to play with our Club you hereby acknowledge and agree that your player, yourself, and any guest you may invite to the game accept and will abide by the Brothers JRLFC Ipswich Inc Code of Conduct and the QRL Positive Environment Program.

https://www.qrl.com.au/contentassets/8ee7e7e9ec6f4450bf45497016238c35/qrl22_postiveenvironmentprogram_final2_spreads.pdf

Our Club is committed to providing a safe environment for its Members, their Families, their Friends, Sporting Personnel, and others involved with the Club. **Aggressive, threatening, or other inappropriate behaviour/language during a game, training or a club sanctioned event will not be tolerated under any circumstances.**

Our Club Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour for anyone involved in sporting activities with Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club Ipswich Inc. Our Code of Conduct will apply when playing, training, or taking part in club-sanctioned activities.

Non-Compliance:

As a Function of the Management Committee persons found to have behaved inappropriately, and/or who have breached our Club's Code of Conduct and/or found to be non-compliant may face a review or disciplinary action as outlined in our Club Constitution and Disciplinary Procedures By-Law 9.3(d) and 17.1 (a).

For all members, serious breaches will have the matter escalated to the Rugby League Ipswich Judiciary or referred to Queensland Police. A copy of the Club Constitution is available for viewing on our Club Website. <https://brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au/>

Immediate Withdrawal:

Should behaviour that your player, yourself, and/or any guest you may invite to the game continually or seriously contravene our Club's Code of Conduct at the discretion of the Club Officials ***your player may be withdrawn immediately from training or the game.***

The Code of Conduct for officials, committee members, volunteers, players, families, spectators, and members of the public can be found on our website. <https://brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au/>

RESPECT, GOOD MANNERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS AND BIKES

These items are not permitted within the Football Club Grounds, and we ask all players and guests to **respect** these rules and that the Parents/Guardians enforce these rules accordingly.

SMOKING/VAPING (ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES are smoking products)

Under the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998* (Tobacco Act), electronic cigarettes are smoking products and subject to the laws in place for tobacco cigarettes.

Your **responsibility** is to maintain healthy practices at our club and remember, **at all times smoking/vaping is not permitted** within the fenced area of our grounds or within 10 metres of the gated entryways to the fields.

PARKING

Please be respectful of our teammates at the Brothers Leagues Club.

Do not park in spaces reserved for Staff when you attend training and games.

Be respectful of our main supporter – find a different car park.

REGISTRATION

All registrations are completed online. **Do not create a new profile** if you have registered before, it does not matter where or when and it doesn't matter if you cannot remember your details. The **new profile will be declined** and that will delay your registration. **Contact our club registrar for assistance.** brothersregistrar@hotmail.com

A RETURNING PLAYER?

Returning players with Brothers Juniors Ipswich can **re-register** online at <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/>

A NEW PLAYER?

A New Player is defined as a player who has **NEVER PLAYED** the game of rugby league for another club **in Australia or in another country.**

New players can register for Brothers Juniors Ipswich online at <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/>

On your players NRL MySideline Profile, **ID needs to be uploaded** as proof of age before their registration can be approved and finalised by Rugby League Ipswich.

This can be in the form of a **birth certificate, valid passport, or driver's license** (learner's permit). The players profile picture **must be less than 6 months old.** Without the correct documentation a registration **will not be approved.**

A TRANSFERRING PLAYER?

A Transferring Player is defined as a player who **HAS PLAYED** the game of rugby league for another club **in Australia or in another country.** **Every club** has a limited number of players that can be transferred within a season, and when the mandatory quota has been reached Brothers Juniors like all other clubs is unable to accept new registrations.

Players wanting to transfer to Brothers Juniors Ipswich, should email brothersregistrar@hotmail.com (be sure to include the player's **full name, date of birth and former club name**). If your child's registration is not under their full name, you must provide this information also. E.G. Matthew Thomas Smith – registered as Thom Smith.

ID needs to be uploaded as proof of age for the player **before their registration can be approved and finalised.**

REGISTRATION FEES

Fees can be paid online during registration or at the canteen during training. Fees are fully payable by 30 April.

- Under 6 to Under 12: \$195 per player \$45.00 - **Deposit to be paid during online registration**
- Under 13 to Under 17: \$210 per player \$60.00 - **Deposit to be paid during online registration**

- Under 6 to Under 12: Remaining fee of \$150 per player to be fully payable by 30 April 2024
- Under 13 to Under 17: Remaining fee of \$150 per player to be fully payable by 30 April 2024

WHAT DO REGISTRATION FEES COVER?

- Team registrations, insurances, and late forfeit fines
- Team photos & trophies (U6s - U17s)
- Volunteer training and team equipment
- Home game entry and referees' fees
- Under 17 and Life Service event
- Break up carnival – rides, fireworks, food trucks

QLD GOVERNMENT FUNDING ASSISTANCE

Parents, carers, or guardians can apply for a voucher valued up to \$150 for your child, which can be used towards sport and active recreation membership, registration, or participation fees. Click on the link for more information. <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/fairplay/apply>

UNIFORM (PLAYING KIT)

- Each team will be supplied with a set of sponsored jerseys for the players to wear on game days. The jerseys remain the property of the Club.
- A mandatory requirement of our club are the correct playing shorts and socks. These are to be worn at every game. These can be **purchased from the canteen** during training times.

Playing Gear:	
Boots (U6-U11)	Moulded sole boots only.
Boots (U12-U17)	Either moulded sole or screw in with nylon or metal tags. Blade style boots are also acceptable.
Shorts & Socks	Mandatory playing kit available for purchase at our canteen .
Jersey	Supplied by the club. Team manager will roster washing.
Mouthguards	Fitted versions available from your dentist. Semi-fitted versions available at sporting goods retailers.
Shoulder Pads	Available at sporting goods retailers.
Head Gear	Available at sporting goods retailers.

ADMISSION CHARGES

All fields in the Rugby League Ipswich area charge an admission fee (for adults) of \$2.00. When playing games at away venues, **please be prepared to pay the \$2.00 admission fee per adult**.

Admission charges to home games (at Brothers Leagues Club) are included as part of your registration. If you are entering our grounds with your player (in playing uniform) you will not be charged the admission fee.



SUPPORTERS APPAREL

At Brothers our traditional colours are blue and white. Always “Proud of the Jersey’s they wear on their backs”. Supporter apparel can be purchased at the Canteen.

THE VAL HOOLAHAN CANTEEN

As a non-profit organisation a large proportion of the club’s funds are raised during the season through the canteen. Over the years the canteen has been run by a very small group of parents and players both past and present.

The Juniors run the canteen during all Junior and Senior home games. Senior home games are usually on Saturday evenings and Sundays. If any parent/guardian wishes to assist in the canteen during these games please contact our Canteen Coordinator info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au as extra help is always greatly appreciated.

All canteen volunteers are entered into the Pepsi & Pizza team prize. The team who has the most tickets for volunteering over and above their quota throughout the season wins Pizza and Pepsi for their whole team at the end of season breakup.

We encourage all parents/guardians to become involved in the running of your club, to help maintain our goal of providing the best for our present and emerging players. It’s also a good way of meeting other parents/guardians and finding out how your club works.

To make it fair to all, each team will be allocated a time to do “CANTEEN ROSTER” on home games. It is the responsibility of the Age Group Coordinator and /or Team Manager to ensure that parents/guardians turn up for their “CANTEEN ROSTER”. It’s ONLY an hour (before your child’s game), and your contribution makes a significant difference.

If you know of any individual who would benefit from becoming a volunteer and who is able to assist regularly at the Canteen **when we host**, contact our Canteen Coordinator info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

HOW DO I BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

During the past 51 years we are proud to have the support of our wonderful volunteers who generously donate their time to assist us in supporting and mentoring our many U6 to U17 players. Upskilling and support are offered to our volunteers who work together as coaching support staff and or committee members. We are always grateful for your donation of time, talent, and energy. **Game days we always need help in the canteen and Sports Trainers.**

A NEW VOLUNTEER?

New volunteers can register online at: <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/> When looking for a club click on Brothers Juniors Ipswich. If you would like more information about volunteering, please email the relevant volunteer coordinator below.

Volunteer Coordinator U6-U12	Matt Boyd	brothersminimodvolunteercoordinator@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator U13-U17	Paulette Henderson-Crofts	president@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

A RETURNING VOLUNTEER?

Thank you for your continued investment with Brothers Juniors. You are able to re-register online at <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/>

BLUE CARDS (Child Safety)

Throughout Australia Blue Cards are an online process. Blue Cards are a **mandatory legal requirement** of your club and these must be active and current prior to any volunteer 18+ being involved with your club. At Brothers Juniors all volunteers must have their **Blue Card link approved before commencing** their volunteering role.

No card, **No link**, No start, **No Exceptions!**

When you register you are able to enter your Blue Card details. Our committee will Link your card to our club. When an **approved link** is confirmed (average time 10 business days) you will be able to start your rewarding journey of volunteering.

To link your card with Brothers, email a volunteer coordinator (details above) either with a photo of your current card or your online account number and date of birth.

Click on the link for further information. <https://www.qld.gov.au/law/laws-regulated-industries-and-accountability/queensland-laws-and-regulations/regulated-industries-and-licensing/blue-card/applications/apply>

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please update your child's NRL Profile if addresses or contact details change.

Parents/Caregivers/Guardians are reminded that Team Officials require this information to keep records updated.

Please inform them as soon as possible of any changes to player details (e.g., address, phone numbers, etc.)

EMERGENCY CONTACTS AND HEALTH DETAILS

Team Managers and Coaches throughout a season are given access (by club administrators) to access their players emergency contacts and health/medical details via the players online profile submitted at the time of registration. It is important that these are updated if there are changes during the season.

This information is vital for Team Managers and Coaches in the case of an emergency, injury, accident, or illness sustained during training or at a game.

Please note that information when required can be provided to First Responders, paramedics, or medical staff.

Access to information for Coaching Staff is "**Opened**" once teams have been confirmed by the Club Registrar.

Access to information for Coaching Staff is "**Closed**" at the end of every season.

INJURIES & CHILD SAFETY

The NRL has a range of policies and guidelines to ensure the game is played in a safe and fun environment. Our Club and our First Responders/Sport Trainers are aware of the guidelines that mandate the safety of all players regardless of their age when injuries occur. Our committee are also made aware of the mandated Child Safety Protocols and policies. Should you require more information regarding injuries, return to play policies or child safety please click on the link below or feel free to approach our Head Trainer.

<https://www.playrugbyleague.com/policies/>

GAME DAY INJURIES

All games held in the Rugby League Ipswich area must have a qualified Sports Trainer/First responder (FAO) in attendance. Brothers Coaches and parents/caregivers/guardians **are not to take to the field if there is an injury**. A League Safe volunteer **cannot and should not** administer first aid or assess injuries, **they are to signal the FAO for assistance**.

If a player sustains an injury during play, they will be attended to by the Sports Trainers on duty. **Unless invited** by the Sports Trainer (and in consultation with the game Referee and Ground Manager) Parents/Guardians/Caregivers/ Coaching Staff/Supporters **are not permitted** to go onto the field.

Injury reports must be completed by the attending FAO and uploaded onto the players player profile.

TREATING MINOR INJURIES & MAINTAINING THE BODY READY TO PLAY AGAIN

- **REST.** Pain is your body's way of telling you to rest an injured area.
- **ICE.** Ice is a great pain reliever.
- **COMPRESSION.** Putting pressure (compression) on an injury helps limit swelling and gives support
- **ELEVATION.** Keeping an injury raised (elevated) helps reduce swelling.

INJURY NOTIFICATIONS & INSURANCE CLAIMS

All players are insured with the QRL (Queensland Rugby League) endorsed insurance company –this is the basic cover required by the QRL before a player can take to the field. If you think that you require higher cover, please consult your Private Health Fund.

All insurance claims must be lodged on a claim form (request from Secretary) **within 30 days of the injury occurring**, otherwise the claim may in some circumstances be affected. If you have any problems with the completion of the claim form, please contact the Secretary.

PLAYING GEAR & PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Protective equipment plays an important part in a player's approach to rugby league. There is protective apparel for specific areas of the body.

A mouthguard is a cushioning appliance made of flexible material that fits snugly over the teeth to help prevent injuries to the teeth and mouth. An effective mouthguard is like a 'crash helmet' for teeth and jaws. It also prevents the jaws coming together fully, thereby reducing the risk of jaw joint injuries and concussion. (2020 <https://orthodonticsaustralia.org.au/>)

Shoulder Pads and Headgear are designed to lessen impact damage to those parts of the body and recommended for players who lack confidence in the defensive aspect of the game.

Strapping: Some players may wish to have certain limbs and joints strapped for games. Brothers Juniors Ipswich do not supply tape. Strapping tape can be purchased in the Canteen. Most Brothers FAO's are happy to apply the tape if supplied.

Some footballers choose not to wear protection during games.

Sunscreen: The application of sunscreen is recommended for all players, officials, and parents/guardians.

Hydration: this is an important everyday practice and should not be left to game days alone to correctly hydrate.

FEEDBACK

Remember for our club to continue to improve we would prefer to hear your feedback directly rather than see it on Facebook. Complaints, concerns, or compliments can be emailed to info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

General enquiries are always welcome.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TEAM/INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Team and Individual photos will be taken on a date to be advised - normally around June/July each year. Please ensure that you are on time for your photos. If you are not there at the time allotted, we will not be able to wait.

Each player will receive 1 x team photo and 1 x individual photos. Parents/guardians wanting additional team or individual photos or special photos (e.g., parent and child, sibling) will incur a small charge per photo. Cost to be advised.

Dress requirements are club socks, shorts and team jersey, boots are also to be worn. All jewellery must be removed or covered. Team personnel must be in the correct club shirt. Hats and caps are not to be worn. Timings for individual teams will be advised closer to the day. All players and coaching staff are to be listed on the team photo. If players or coaching staff are absent on photo night their names (and staff position) are to be included on the team sheet given to the photographer.

TEAM/INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES

Team and Individual trophies will be distributed during the Season Breakup. Unless we are notified in writing all names on the trophies will be as per the players NRL profile. If players are unable to attend the Breakup, trophies and photos can be picked up the following week from the canteen, notification of times will be via Facebook.

Committee members are volunteers too, we are unable to cater for individuals wanting pick-ups outside the designated times, your support with this is appreciated.

CARNIVALS / GALA and CLUSTER DAYS

Carnivals, Gala and/or Cluster days can be held during the season for a number of age groups, predominantly U6-U12. Notification of dates, times, and venues for these will be posted on the club Facebook page www.facebook.com/brothersjnr.ipswich once confirmed.

In previous seasons we have experienced a number of changes before or on the morning of carnivals and gala days. Please remember that as a committee we do our best to communicate the updates we receive in a timely manner, however in rare instances our club has not been made aware of all changes by hosting clubs.

LITTLE LEPRECHAUNS LEAGUE

Little Leprechauns is our program for introducing 3–5-year-olds to rugby league through skill-based, non-contact activities and training drills. The program runs over 5 x one-hour sessions, **usually in term 3**.

Little Leprechauns is based on the philosophy of learning through play. As well as assisting with developing hand-eye coordination and motor skills, the program promotes physical activity in a fun and interactive rugby league environment. Children of all skills and abilities are welcome.

More information about our 2024 Little Leprechauns program is released July/August.

REPRESENTATIVE TEAM LEVIES

If your child is selected to play on a representative team (e.g. QLD City/Country, Maitland, Met West, or Ipswich), it is the parent/caregiver/guardian's responsibility to pay all fees and levies.

Parents/Caregiver/Guardians should speak with the manager of the representative team should support be required as Brothers Juniors Ipswich takes no responsibility for payment of any fees or levies on behalf of any player selected as a representative.

A GUIDE TO SUCCESS

Training Requirements

COACHING STAFF

The Coaching Staff are to begin training sessions on time and finish on time.

The Coaching Staff are tasked with the preparation and implementation of skills sessions on a weekly basis.

The Coaching Staff will cater for “All” players abilities and not just your Superstar.

The Coaching Staff understand their Code of Conduct responsibilities.

Under no circumstances are Coaching Staff permitted to swear at/with players or make comments that are disparaging towards age, ability, race, gender, cultural background, sexuality or religion (**NOT EVEN** if “It was meant as a joke” Or “We speak like that at home”)

PLAYERS

It is important that all players attend as many training sessions as possible. This will ensure that players have every opportunity to accumulate the personal knowledge and experience, that is required to having a positive experience during their Junior Rugby League involvement.

The Coaching Staff are tasked with the preparation and implementation of skills sessions on a weekly basis. The training sessions are to be conducted in a safe and nurturing environment with the aim of all players, no matter their ability, are given the opportunity to learn and understand the basic skills of the **greatest game of all, Rugby League.**

A “**Fair Go for All**” is a fundamental value at Brothers Juniors, and it is the common practice amongst all the adults, who take on a role of responsibility under our Club Banner of Operation. The Team Manager is your first contact regarding any queries, concerns, or feedback.

Managers will communicate with the teams’ parents/caregivers/guardians regarding:

- Team/Club Information – this will include Canteen Duty, Game Day Info. Cancellations etc...
- Organising team rosters re: Canteen, Jersey washing, Player of the Match, Lines person
- Ensuring the return of the team jerseys for game day
- Transport assistance
- Status of fees payments

PLAYER BEHAVIOUR

When your child/children are with their coaching staff the best practice is for parents/caregivers/guardians to step back and allow the coaches and the players to establish a rapport. On occasions the coach may call for parent/caregiver/guardian assistance, don’t hold back **join in the fun!** Assistance does not require a Blue Card.

If a Player is not participating in an acceptable or appropriate manner, the coach may:

- Respectfully speak to the player about what they as the coach is expecting during a current drill or skill session and the player returns to training.
- If the same player continues to demonstrate unacceptable/inappropriate behaviour, the coach (after giving a reminder to the player about what is expected) may sit the player out of the activity for a short period of time.
- If a third time (**within the same training session**) the same player continues to demonstrate unacceptable/inappropriate behaviour **that is not acceptable to the coach**, the coach and/or the manager may escort the player to their parent/caregiver and explain that the child has not responded in an acceptable manner to the requests of the coach (**and providing an explanation of the specific unacceptable behaviour**) the player can remain with their parents/caregiver for the remainder of the training session.

Should the behaviour from the same player continue to disrupt training or games support can be requested from the Brothers Junior Committee.

PLAYER ABSENCE

It only takes 2 minutes: Text the Manager/Coach that your child will not be attending. *Past experiences have demonstrated that players fundamental rugby league skills and knowledge of the game may fall behind that of their team mates if there are too many absences.*

What **WE** encourage at Brothers Juniors Ipswich...

- Your full support of your child and their team as they participate in the ***Greatest Game of All: Rugby League.***
- If you have concerns with any aspect of the running/control of the team, raise your concern/s early with the team manager to “nip it in the bud”
- If you feel your concerns have not been addressed, contact your Age Group Coordinator to seek advice and possible further action, don't let it fester. We can't assist if we don't know what the issue is.
- A “Learning through Fun” program delivery
- If you have nothing positive to say about your player, **say nothing!**
- That you read the club Code of Conduct and understand your responsibility as a club member

What **YOU** encourage at Brothers Juniors Ipswich...

- Your child/children to attend trainings and games
- Praising your child's/children's personal efforts and achievements – ***remembering this is not the NRL***
- If discipline issues do arise support the Coaching Staff as they attempt to successfully resolve them, ***for the benefit of all players***
- The positive Life of the Team – positively interact with the other parents, players, and coaching staff
- Allowing your child/children to have fun and learn the basics **of their chosen sport**
- Letting your child develop their own skill levels, at the rate that suits their present level of confidence
- Have realistic personal expectations of your child's/children's performance.
- Assist as and when requested at the training runs and games
- Participate in positive “Well Done” calls from the team supporters' area for all team players
- Helping out at the Club Canteen an hour before your child plays at Home. (All profits go back into the club)

CLUB SONG

They say there's a league team in old Ipswich town
Brothers they call by name
Proud of the Jersey's they wear on their backs
Proud of the Rugby League Game that they play
For there's many a player who's not made the grade
There's some who's played the test

So, get in condition and fight for position
The Blue and White [players] are the best
Bless 'em all! Bless 'em all!

The Fullbacks and Centres and all
Bless all the Wingers and Hookers that strike
Bless all the Half Backs and 5/8's alike
For they chain pass the ball round the ground
They back up and never go down
You'll all see the colours of Blue and White for Brothers
So, cheer up my [guys]
BLESS 'EM ALL!

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.” – Author Unknown

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES FOR MEMBERS

The Process

As a club we are committed to handling complaints in a fair, just, and transparent way and we will ensure we always follow clear processes and procedures. Should more support be required the committee will seek clarification from our local, regional, or national sporting organisation.

Remember we are all approachable so do not let things get under your skin, try talking to your team manager, coach, or age coordinator. Should your concerns/complaint not be resolved please read and follow the procedure below.

Complaint handling principles

We are committed to adherence to the following principals and will:

- **Treat** complaints seriously
- **Act** promptly
- **Treat** people fairly and listen to both sides of the story
- **Stay** neutral
- **Keep** parties to the complaint informed
- **Maintain** confidentiality
- **Protect** against victimization
- **Keep** accurate records
- **Make** decisions based only on the information gathered and not personal views
- **Ensure** disciplinary action is relative to the breach

Time frame for lodging complaints

All complaints (formal and informal) must be received by the club secretary **in writing** not later than seven days following the incident that has led to the complaint. At the discretion of the committee an extension may be available for complaints from the public. info@brothersjuniorsipswich.com.au

What to Include in a Letter of Complaint/Concern?

1. In writing describe the concerns/issues and the outcome you want.
2. Include key dates and names/team positions if name unknown when the problem occurred.
3. Identify what action you took (if any to address the concerns/issues already) taken to fix the problem
4. Identify what actions you propose are needed to rectify the concerns/issues

Complaint handling options

Our club will deal with complaints in the following ways:

- **Informally** for less serious complaints e.g., coach showing favouritism towards their own child in teamselection.
- **Formally** in such circumstances, such as a player missing out on team selection because of race or religiousbeliefs or where a serious physical or verbal assault has occurred or parental breach of conduct
- **By referral** to an external agency for very serious issues e.g., harm against a child.

**Please be advised that any person attempting to circumvent the above process, by going directly to the districtbody, will be diverted back to their respective Club by the District body to follow the appropriate procedures.*