

Thank you for your expression of interest in joining Merrimac Football Club for the 2022 Season. Merrimac Football Club is a club where everyone is welcome we cater for Boys and Girls aged from 5 years to 13 years. The mission of Merrimac Football Club is to strive for excellence both on and off the field.

We wish to build a positive club community based on our core values; Football, Family and Fun. Not only do we seek to create an environment where everyone is welcome, but we also intend to give every participant the opportunity to become a better player while enjoying the game. Merrimac Football Club also offers an All Abilities Program, focusing on an individual's ability NOT disability. We create a fun and challenging environment where players have the opportunity to learn the Merrimac way.

We are firm believers in the long-term player development model and ensure we do our best at placing every player in the right environment for their current stage of development. Every child unlocks their gift at different stages of their development, so it is essential that we recognise the needs of the individual within our team programs. So, whether you are joining us for your first ever football experience or you are joining us from another Club, we will strive to make your football experience the best it can be.

All players who participate in either training or matches must be a member of Merrimac Football Club. Players are not eligible to participate in training or matches unless payment has been received.

The Registration Fees for 2022 Season are as follows:

Mini Roos Under 7s – Under 11s	=	\$1,100.00
Juniors Under 12s – Under 13s	=	\$1,200.00
Development Under 9s – Under 13s	=	\$1,650.00

What is Community Football at Merrimac Football Club?

Community Football is designed to be the perfect introduction to football. It delivers the basics required to play, learn and love the game. Our community football offers two weekly training sessions that build skills through games and simple drills delivered in an engaging and inclusive environment. A fun, safe introductory program aimed at both boys and girls of all abilities to grow their football skills.

At Merrimac Football Club, our community teams are run by our professional coaching staff who will keep your child's football experience fun, enjoyable, and help foster a desire to play. Our emphasis is on individual confidence with the ball, technical development, and placing the kids in a competitive environment to expose them to all the components of the game. The goal of Merrimac Football Club is to form young players into talented football players.

What's included in the Community Registration:

- 2 x Full Kits (shirt, shorts and socks)
- 35-week program
- 2 x training sessions per week
- Striking the ball / First touch / 1 v 1 / Running with the ball
- Skill driven training game to increase players game knowledge

What is Development Football at Merrimac Football Club?

Development Teams are for players who we believe have the potential and desire to train and play in an advanced playing environment. Our Development Program is designed to aid and support those players wishing to advance within the game with a programme designed to offer support and guidance in helping to achieve those aspirations through structure training and developmental sessions.

All players offered the opportunity to join our Development Teams do so, knowing that the programme they will sign up to has been specifically designed to incorporate a football and educational element that is paramount to aid their development. Our focus is always on the player developing an understanding of the key components of the game. We will provide opportunities for all players to learn and grow on the field.

The development program provides three weekly specialist coaching sessions for players through engaging sessions, supported by our excellent coaching team. We will provide the environment and competition along with the guidance a young player needs to maximise their potential. We will deliver a dynamic and engaging training model designed to create confidence and smart play.

What's included in the Development Registration:

- 3 x Full Kits (shirt, shorts and socks)
- 35-week program
- 3 x training sessions per week
- Striking the ball / First touch / 1 v 1 / Running with the ball
- Skill driven training game to increase players game knowledge
- Extra match days (opponents could be SAP teams and out of area teams)
- Local carnivals (Carnivals are additional cost)
- Football Queensland Fixtures plus addition games arranged by Merrimac Football Club

In summary 35-week training season, scheduled games plus additional games, approx. 25 games and carnivals.

Trials will be held for all Development teams and players will be assessed at the trials on merit according to their current skills and abilities

All selected players will be required to commit to the following, failure to commit can result in the player getting released from the Development Team:

- Consistently show above average football abilities on a consistent basis in games and training
- Are able to commit to all training sessions and match days
- Are willing to listen and learn in the training environment
- Have an interest in developing and being placed in a challenging environment

Please note that this program is not beneficial for all players. Please consider the above points before registering your child for a trial. Any players deemed not quite ready to play for the development teams will be placed in in our community teams.

Why are our fees higher than some Clubs?

A portion of the registration fee goes to the affiliated governing bodies (Football Queensland, Football Gold Coast, Football Federation Australia) and provides protection by way of insurance as a player within the Football Queensland competition and to train at the club.

The other portion of your fee goes to the Club to enable us to provide the excellent football experience you deserve.

Firstly, we feel we have the best venue on the Gold Coast, Merrimac Football Club grounds are privately owned. This means we are not funded by Council to maintain the grounds, lighting and everything else associated with running the Club. However, what this does mean, our grounds cannot be closed by Council due to wet weather. Rain, Hail or Shine, Merrimac FC does not cancel games or training sessions, which unfortunately happens to a number of Clubs due to council requirements.

What also makes us different from most Clubs are our sessions which are created by qualified paid coaches (not parents). All our Coaches are highly motivated and qualified at various levels having played both Nationally and Internationally Premier League Football as well as representing their Countries in the World Arena.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact us at info@merrimacfootballclub.com.

Best regards



Chris Cahill
President
Merrimac Football Club