



MAITLAND CITY SOFTBALL CLUB

PLAYER INFORMATION

2020-2021 SEASON



02 4939 1200

www.maitlandcity.com.au



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DETAILS:

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Member Protection Officer: Daniel Cherry	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0418 743 642
Member Protection Officer: Matt Kavanagh	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0439 000 158
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Umpires Coodinator: Renae Charter-Smith	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0438 423 928
Canteen Coordinator: Kelly Meehan	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0407 731 164
Grants Coordinator: Lisa Duhig	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0418 743 642
Fundraising Coordinator: Rebecca Jenkins	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0412 425 842
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Groundsman: Wayde Hall	maitlandmeteors@gmail.com	0435 061 969
Junior Training Coordinator/s: Alyssa Charter-Smith		

WELCOME TO THE 2020/2021 SEASON

Well it is time to dust off the glove, empty the kit bag of forgotten socks and drink bottles and register for the new softball season.

To our returning players – welcome back and to our new players – thank you for choosing to play with Maitland City. We hope you enjoy this season and many future seasons with our wonderful club.

The information provided in this booklet will assist you and answer any questions you may have for the upcoming season. If you have any problems or queries, please do not hesitate to contact a committee member. This season sees our largest number of volunteer committee members, so I thank them all in advance for putting their hands up to not only welcome our members, old and new, but to ensure everyone's experience with our club is so good they will want to come back season after season.

If we thought last season was disruptive, 2020 is shaping up to be a challenging one with Covid-19 and the many restrictions placed on us before we even take the diamond. With your help, I ask for your patience and assistance to ensure we get through it together, preferably hassle-free, but realistically, we will certainly be pushed to our limits. Remember, our goal is to get on the diamond, participate and have fun.

We pride ourselves on being family-orientated, friendly and fun and are passionate about our junior development and establishing positive role-models and mentors in our club.

We hope you have a safe, successful, and most importantly, enjoyable 2020/2021 season.

Shareese Waipouri – President

ABOUT OUR CLUB

Maitland City Softball Club Incorporated is an affiliate club of Newcastle & District Softball Association (NDSA) which in turn is affiliated with Softball NSW. We are a family orientated club catering for all ages and abilities from 4yrs and up. Our primary objective, in line with that of NDSA is to facilitate participation in and the development of the sport of Softball in the Newcastle & Hunter Valley region in particular Maitland and the surrounding suburbs.

2020 marks the club's ninth season and already we have been thrice nominated by NDSA as NSW Club of the Year with 2016/2017 being our most successful to date, earning us an honorable top three recognition. We have also achieved Homeplate Status (a bit like the Logies of Softball for Good Governance), not once but twice the last two seasons. 2019/2020 earned us first spot on the ladder in the whole of Australia, something we are very proud of. It is our reward for saying "we are doing the right thing"!

We have proudly fielded teams in ALL junior divisions for the past few seasons (U6 Bennyball, U9 Teeball, U11 Modball, U13, U15 and U18) as well as ALL senior divisions (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade women + 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade men).

We have had a 90%-member retention rate over the last few seasons, which tells us, we must be doing most things right. We strive to ensure our members feel inclusive and "part of our Maitland Family". Our motto is simple "have a go, have fun" and we encourage "fun" rather than "win at all costs".

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Come'n'Try Days will be held:

- Sunday 20th Sep 2020 – 11.00am to 1.00pm, McKeachies Sportsgrounds, Redgum Drive, Aberglasslyn – **CANCELLED DUE TO WET WEATHER**
- Sunday 27th Sep 2020 – 11.00am to 1.00pm, McKeachies Sportsgrounds, Redgum Drive, Aberglasslyn

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19 restrictions, we cannot share a sausage sizzle. We must abide by the rule of “attend, play/train, leave”.

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS will commence 1st Aug 2020. Please check out our Facebook page and/or website for the link. Alternatively, we can email you a link if required. You will require an email address (and your password) to register online.

To all returning members from last season, you will receive an email with the link plus a pre-filled online registration to make your life a little easier. Please ensure to update any details necessary.

Online credit-card payments will now be accepted, however, there is a processing fee which will also be charged to your card. Bank Transfer is preferable and if this is your preference, then exit out of your online registration once you get to the end (you do not have to pay by credit card).

NDSA COMPETITION AGE GROUPS 2020-2021

Age groups will be the same as last season but may change depending on registration numbers by all clubs.

Your child must be “under” the age group **AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020 when registering for the 2020/2021 season.**

U23 SOFTBALL

YOB = 1997 – 2002

U18 SOFTBALL

YOB = 2003 – 2005

U15 SOFTBALL

YOB = 2006 – 2007

U13 SOFTBALL

YOB = 2008 – 2009

U11 MODBALL

YOB = 2010 – 2011

U9 TEEBALL

YOB 2012 – 2014

U6 BENNYBALL

YOB = 2015 2016

All junior teams are of mixed gender (unless there is an increase of players across all clubs and the need to split)

REGISTRATION COSTS

Fees are based on the age of the player **as at 31 December 2020.**

When registering a minimum of \$100 deposit must be made to secure registration with all registration fees paid in full by the 1st week of competition or your membership will be de-activated and you will not be allowed to take the diamond.

Registration Fee also covers our voluntary umpire payments for the season.

All players under 18 will need to supply a copy of a birth certificate or extract IF this is their 1st season.

Payment can be made by: Credit card* online, direct debit, by cheque (please note: if your cheque is dishonoured you will also have to pay the dishonour fee). *If paying by credit card a processing fee will be applied. Cash payments will be accepted, however, bank transfer is preferred.

Direct Deposit details:

Account Name: Maitland Meteors Softball Club
BSB: 637000
Account Number: 719033202
Reference: Your name

FEES

- Benny Ball \$60 Aged 3, 4 or 5 as at 31/12/20
- Teeball/Sub Junior \$150 Aged 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 as at 31/12/20
- Junior \$180 Aged 13, 14, 15, 16 or 17 as at 31/12/20
- Senior \$210 Aged 18 or older as at 31/12/20
- Non-Playing Official \$0 Coach, Umpire, Scorer who do not play
- Off-Diamond Official \$0 Volunteers, Administrators, Team Managers who do not play
- Members on Permission \$95 Players on loan from other Associations

A portion of our registration fees is used to make weekly \$10 payments to ALL of our umpires each Saturday.

FAMILY DISCOUNT (for FULL paying registrations only)

- Two members - \$10 discount per family
- Three members - \$20 discount per family
- Four members - \$30 discount per family
- Five members - \$40 discount per family
- and so on.....

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

- We are an Active Kids Voucher provider so you just need to email us a copy of your voucher and we will claim this back & deduct from your invoice

Please note: Invoices are processed at the start of the season & emailed to all members. If additional uniform items are purchased after you have registered (or adjustments are made), then these items will be added to your invoice & re-emailed to all members. Our Treasurer will only update these once a month, therefore, any payments that have NOT YET hit our bank account, may not show on your invoice (keep in mind credit card payments & active kids rebates can take up to a week to hit our account). Your invoice is a "live" one, which means, if you check it again every month, then it should update to reflect the correct amount owing. If you still believe your invoices and/or payments are incorrect, then please email us. Remember we are all volunteers and our Treasurer is not expected to check invoices and bank transactions on a daily basis. We appreciate your patience.

MAJOR SPONSORS

We are fortunate to have two major sponsors, Club Maitland City in Rutherford (which has the Quarry Bar & Grill Restaurant that serves great meals) and Mars Building (our Cap Sponsor). These businesses have helped us purchase new uniforms and equipment over the last few seasons which in turn has reduced costs to our members.

We encourage ALL our members (Junior members as well) to become a social member of CMC at a cost of \$10.00 per year (Junior members are \$2.50 and will receive a water bottle in return – ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER PROPERGANDA/ADVERTISING MATERIAL ETC WILL BE SENT TO YOUR CHILD). Not only will you save on meals and drinks at the Club (we host our fundraising and presentation nights here), but more importantly, you help us to improve our relationship with our sponsor so that they can see we are “giving something back to them” by way of “patronage”. We hope to continue our partnership with both sponsors for many more years to come so please help support them, as they do us.

We plan to have several social gatherings at the club throughout the season and we encourage you to wear your club uniforms (especially your shirt) to show our presence in the club.

We also have a minor sponsor, Alstra Electrical in Thornton who have provided much need equipment for our juniors. If you need some electrical work, give these guys a call.

UNIFORM & MANDATORY EQUIPMENT

Our uniform consists of:

- playing shirt, cap or visor and white socks/black gators (must be purchased from club at a total cost ranging from \$77-\$87.00 for all 3 items)
- black playing pants/playing shorts (no stripes/no tights/no logos)
- **black helmet (compulsory for all Junior players & recommended for all Senior players)**
- We also have an optional hoodie, club polo and supporter’s shirt that can be purchased from the club.

All uniforms items can be purchased from the club or you are welcome to source your own pants, shorts and helmets. Please ensure you “tick” your uniform items when registering online and add the quantity and sizes too. If you forget, please contact our Uniform Coordinator – Cyline Zambra.

Our Playing Shirts have your name and number printed on the back. Please ensure to input your preferences when registering online. Numbers are allocated on a first-in best-dressed basis so unfortunately you may not get your first preference, but we will do our best to accommodate you.

All players must provide their own glove. Check out Ausport Superstore (Melbourne) Red Stitches (Sydney) Elite Sports (Condell Park Sydney) or Catalogue & Club (Adamstown). We are also part of the Elite Sports VIP Program which offers our members a 5% discount. Please use the code “S2147” – Maitland City Softball Club at any time.

It is compulsory for ALL Junior players to wear shin pads.

Uniforms can take up to 6 weeks for delivery. No uniforms will be given out until full payment has been received.

Juniors will need to purchase the following:

- Playing shirt/cap or visor/socks
- Playing Pants or Long Shorts
- A glove: Sizing depends on the player, but approximate sizes are as below:
 - Bennyball – 9” to 10”
 - U10’s – 9” to 11”
 - U12’s – 11” to 12”
 - U14’s & U16’s – 12’ to 12.5”
 - U18’s – 12.5” to 13”
- Shin pads & Batting Helmet
- Batting gloves are recommended
- Cleats or Football boots are recommended but not required (no metal studs)
- Mouthguards are recommended but not compulsory

Seniors will need to purchase the following:

- Playing shirt/cap or visor/socks
- Playing Pants or Long Shorts
- Batting helmet & gloves are recommended
- A glove: Sizing depends on the player but typically 12.5” and upwards for all senior grades
- Cleats or Football boots are recommended but not required (no metal studs)

TRAINING DETAILS

Our training grounds are at McKeachies Sports Field, Redgum Drive, Aberglasslyn.

Junior training is on a Wednesday from 5.30 – 7.30pm

Senior training is on a Thursday from 5.30 – 7.30pm (this includes U18s)

Training will commence for all teams 30th Sep 2020.

These training sessions can also be used as “try-out” sessions for those who are not 100% sure if they want to register or not, so feel free to come along or invite your friends and families.

Attendance at training is not compulsory, however, recommended. Please contact your team manager if you are unable to attend. Our coaches structure our training sessions around team availability so please do not waste their time and energy.

Please note: We are currently seeking approval from our local council to have a backnet installed near the carpark/playground at McKeachies Oval. We will have a temporary backnet that will be put up and taken down before and after each training session. Until then, we ask all parents and/or carers to “keep an eye on your children” who are in the playground during training sessions. We have had many near misses with balls accidentally being felled off a bat or over-thrown into the playground. It is not ideal, however, we will do our best to avoid such incidents.

*****PLEASE ENSURE TO CHECK-IN BY FILLING IN OUR COVID19 REGISTER ON ARRIVAL*****

DUTIES

Throughout the season, all clubs are allocated canteen and umpiring duties by NDSA to perform including the finals. Top Canteen duty is all day from 8.00am to 5.45pm (4 people) and bottom canteen is usually from 9.00am to 3.30pm (2 people).

Duties are shared between all our teams. To help cover the duties, one parent/guardian of a junior player will be allocated canteen duty that he/she will be required to fulfil (this may be more than once throughout the season). ALL senior players will be required to either umpire or perform canteen duties.

Being one of the biggest club in the competition unfortunately also means we are allocated more duties by NDSA so we ask all our members to make our jobs a little easier by “volunteering” an hour or so on our allocated duty days. Like the old saying goes “more hands make light work”. We will do our best to assign the team duties at the start of the season or once a full season draw has been released by NDSA.

If a team fails to cover their duties – the team WILL BE FINED. Team Managers may choose to pass this fine on to member/s of their team/s who do not pull their weight.

Clubs are required to Umpire ALL their games except 1st Grade, either plate or base. All volunteer umpires will be paid \$10.00 (base or plate) per game. If you or your child wish to umpire on a regular basis, please contact our Umpires Coordinator, Renae Charter-Smith with timeslot and grade preferences.

Clubs also have Ground Duties to cover which may include either set up or pack down or cleaning of diamonds. These duties will be allocated on a rotational basis to the club team/s who either play in the first timeslot of the day or the club team/s who are last to play on the diamond on the day. WE WOULD APPRECIATE PARENTS VOLUNTEERING TO HELP SET UP IN THE MORNINGS SO THAT TEAM OFFICIALS CAN GET THEIR TEAMS WARMED UP.

COMPETITION DATES & TIMES

All games are played at Stevenson Park, Industrial Drive, Mayfield West on a Saturday.

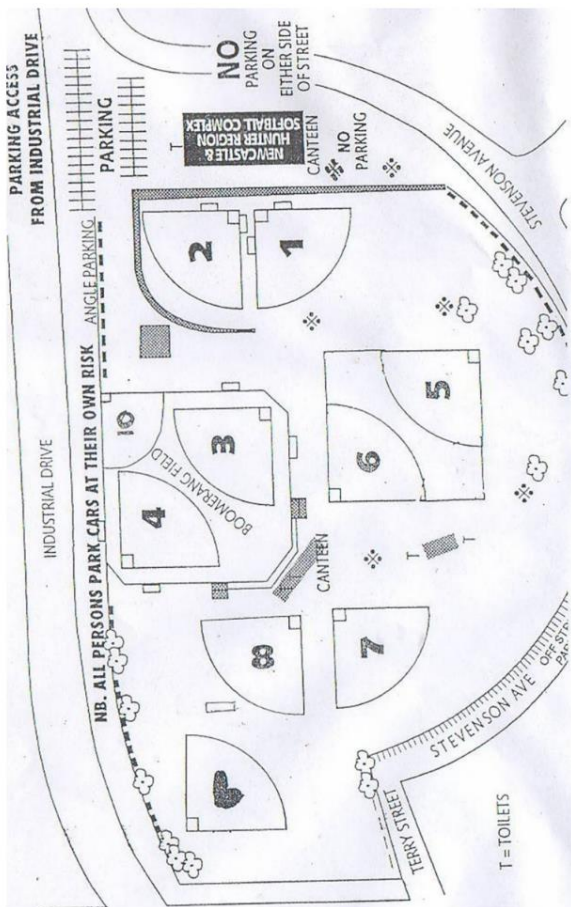
This year the season will commence with Round 1 on Saturday 17th October 2020.

Game Times are as follows **(subject to change – pending NDSA):**

8.30am – 9.45am	U/11 Zooka	U/15		
10.15am – 11.30am	U/9	U/13	U/18	
12.00pm – 1.30pm	3 rd Men	4 th Women		
2.00pm – 3.30pm	1 st Women	2 nd Men	3 rd Women	
4.00pm – 5.30pm	1 st Men	2 nd Women		

Junior games are 1 hour and 15 minutes and all senior games are 1 hour and 30 minutes in duration.

STEVENSON PARK DIAMOND LAYOUT



TEAM OFFICIALS

Team officials play a huge part in our club and without them, our teams would not be able to take the field. If you are willing and able to assist in any way possible, it would be greatly appreciated. Each team requires a coach, assistant coach, manager, covid 19 officer and scorer. Please contact us if you would like a Team Official Form.

WE DESPERATELY NEED TEAM MANAGERS AND COVID 19 OFFICERS FOR EACH TEAM.

NDSA require all team officials to be registered and in club uniform (for non-playing officials, this is our club polo shirt, black pants/shorts and cap). You must also wear closed-in shoes (joggers). All coaches and scorers must hold a level 1 accreditation (1st grade coaches must have level 2 accreditation).

During the season, NDSA will conduct coaching, umpiring and scoring clinics. The club will cover the cost for anyone who wishes to gain accreditation in level 1, in any of these clinics. Any person/s who wishes to gain further accreditation may do so, but at their own expense.

If you would like to attend one of these clinics, please send us an email at maitlandmeteors@gmail.com or contact our Technical Development/Rep Coordinator, Simon Pulcins. With the rapid growth of our club over recent years, we need as many accredited team officials as possible or we cannot field our teams.

We have a junior blues umpire's program for our junior players. The children are supervised by a mentor umpire who is accredited and are allocated games to umpire throughout the season. If you would like

more information on the junior blues program, please contact our Junior Umpire Mentor, Matt Zambra via email maitlandmeteors@gmail.com. We encourage our kids to “Have A Go” at umpiring. It not only enhances their knowledge of the game but also teaches them confidence. You will be amazed at how much they will learn, and the best part is.... they earn themselves \$10 per game to spend at the canteen...winning!

FUNDRAISING & CLUB EVENTS

Just like any other sporting club, Maitland City Softball Club need to fundraise to cover the ongoing costs of running our club. Some of these costs include, equipment, ground hire fees, junior development, team official accreditation and so on. Some of our annual events include a trivia night, chocolate drive, Bunnings community bbq and raffles. We will be asking all of our members to start collecting prizes/donations for our Trivia Night later in the season (we will also send you a club letter for you to use to help seek donations).

Our fundraising coordinator, Rebecca Jenkins, will liaise with team managers to communicate all details of events to be held throughout the season. If you have some great fundraising ideas, please also let us know as we are open to trying some new things that are going to help not only raise funds for our club, but also create that family atmosphere and social gatherings.

COVID 19 ACTION PLAN

Along with our governing bodies, Softball Australia, Softball NSW and Newcastle District Softball Association, we have developed an Action Plan to ensure compliance with the Public Health Restrictions. We are expecting an update the first week of October so our plan will need to be updated to reflect any changes and will be emailed to all our members. Like all sports, we are hoping some of the restrictions will be eased – we can only hope. In the meantime, please adhere to our general rules of arrive, train/play & leave.

COMMUNICATION & FEEDBACK

Throughout the season you will receive emails from the club advising of any important information and events so please ensure you check your emails regularly (including your junk mail).

We also have a website and Facebook page, both of which we encourage you to “like” and follow as they are updated regularly and is our main form of communication.

We also encourage feedback, both positive and negative so feel free to do so either by speaking to an executive board member and/or emailing us.

Finally, we hope to see you on the diamond or around the grounds and look forward to yet another successful season ahead.

Once again, welcome to our Maitland Family! Enjoy the season, be a good sport but most of all, have fun!

Yours in Sport

The Board of Maitland City Softball Club Inc