



Around the Grounds

Special Interest Articles:

- New Website
- Registration & Grading Days
- Small Sided Games for U5-U7
- Female Football
- Grading Days

Baulkham Hills St Michael's Knights



2009 President's Report

2009 was an exciting year for the St Michael's Knights being our first year in the G&DSFA. It was a challenging start to the year with the introduction of a whole new registration process. Many thanks to the other clubs and Granville officials who helped us on so many occasions...your support was appreciated.

We had 24 teams enter, with 9 teams progressing to the semi-finals and 4 making the Grand Final, a terrific effort first time up. This season was also our first to run both our U/6 and U/7 inhouse using the small-sided game format. Parents and players enjoyed the format and our appreciation goes to Football Elite for the professional coaching they gave our players.

St Michael's Knights committee members proved to be invaluable in making sure the season was such a success. Thank you to all our coaches, managers and other volunteers who have committed and dedicated their time throughout the 2009 season. To our sponsors, a hearty thanks for your support. Without it, the club could not provide the extensive services and facilities that it does.

There have been a number of events to commemorate our entrance into the Granville district, notably a fantastic "Family Gala Charity Day" in September at our home ground - Bella Vista Oval.

The day involved all our U/6 and U/7 teams who battled it out for Club Champion status, while our 2 Inaugural Over 35 teams played for the Club Charity Shield. Over \$6,000 was raised for the Special Olympics organisation which supports special needs kids in sport, with the cheque being presented to Special Olympian representatives who joined us on the day.

We were fortunate to have our social committee organise our annual Dinner/Dance, which saw almost 200 members celebrate a great year. A wonderful night was had by all with lots of dancing and merriment. Our annual Knight of the Year award was jointly won by Peter Emerson and Gary Price. The final highlight of the year was seen at our annual general meeting where Mr Ivan Stepic was unanimously voted as a Life Membership for many years invaluable service to our club.

I would like thank all involved with the Knights and the Granville Association this year and we look forward to another great year in 2010.





New Website Launched

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2010 season.

We have toiled over the off-season and can now advise that our new web-site is launched.

Go to www.stmichaelsoccer.com and you'll find many new features and timely information.

You'll now be able to:

- See yearly draws when released
- Check results, field locations & more
- Go directly to sponsors' sites
- See all the club's information
- Submit match reports

St Michael's Knights
43 Summerfield Ave
Quakers Hill, NSW 2763

Phone:
0419 481 210

Website:
www.stmichaelsoccer.com

E-Mail:
contactus@hotmail.com

Soon we'll be able to run member polls so you can let us know your thoughts on issues that affect you and your children's sport.

We'll also be able to let you know issues we are pursuing on your behalf, like the competition for fields that goes on behind the scenes every year.

We'll also highlight some of the more colourful people we have in our club.....and we have some beauties of all ages!

Check it out now.



Registration Days & Fees

Next registration days are Saturday 30th January & Saturday 6th February, from 10am-3pm.

You'll be delighted how **FAST** it is now that we have all your details from last year.

All you need to do is grab **your** form, with **your** details already entered, and if there are no changes you just get checked and pay.

If you have a child going into U8 for the first time we will need to take their photo, but that is fast and painless too.

We'll accept eftpos, cash and cheques for fees and uniforms.

2010 FEES STRUCTURE

SKILLS	\$95
U7 + U8	\$120
U9 – U16	\$140
U17 - U18 Students	\$160
U16 & U17 Non- students	\$240
U19 & Over Students	\$240
SENIORS	\$240



“If you can you count to three and encourage kids you can be a Game Leader!”



Small Sided Games Update

If you really want to know the details of how this works, or want to introduce a kid-friendly site to show your child what fun this is, go to www.smallsidedfootball.com.au

To cut through the detail - FFA has discovered if you give little kids a little field, a ball, two goals and an adult to tie their shoes and encourage them to kick the ball around....they have a ball!

They also get better...quicker. There is nothing more natural for them provided there are just enough kids to ensure they all get plenty of kicks. The Knights are encouraging all parents to register so they can be a Game Leader. If you can count to three and encourage kids you can be a Game Leader!

Why three? Because the rule says that if one child scores three goals for a

U5-U7

team then no more goals are counted until another child scores. This encourages the team that learns to pass.

Given that kids of this age don't need to be 'coached' the Leader doesn't need to know much else except how to encourage them to have a go. This means everyone can volunteer, and we expect every parent to step up at least once and join in the fun.

No pressure, no competition, just kids expressing themselves in the most natural way. We have the rest of the rules on the web-site or can supply a copy if you need it.

Of course we'll still have sessions with the 'pros' from Football Elite to mix it up, but everyone can do this.

Fastest growing Sport in the Country? Women's Football

2009 saw 94 women's and girl's teams
2001 there were only 32 teams.

Girls can play in mixed teams up to U16 or Sunday girl's-only teams, or both.

For the first time this year there is an Over 35's Women's comp and your team can include up to 5 women aged 30-35. The feedback from the women: "finally I don't have to chase girls as young as my daughter".

Matches are held Sundays only, and we'd suggest registering 20-25 people for a team so everyone can have a go, and also take a break when you need it.

WHY NOT BE PART OF ANOTHER FIRST AT ST MICHAEL'S?

THE FIRST WOMEN'S TEAM

THE OVER 35 MEN DID IT LAST YEAR, AND SURELY YOU CAN'T LET THE MEN BEAT YOU?

Grading Days

This year we are ensuring everyone from U8-U17 is graded. We didn't do the U8's last year because we didn't realise their teams were ranked according to their overall ability, and we had some poor fellas cop a flogging every week because the team was in the wrong grade.

You need to be there **BOTH** days and dates are on the web-site. (That's our openly sneaky way of getting you to check out the site.)

**Merry Christmas
& Happy New
Year!**

See you at Registration