

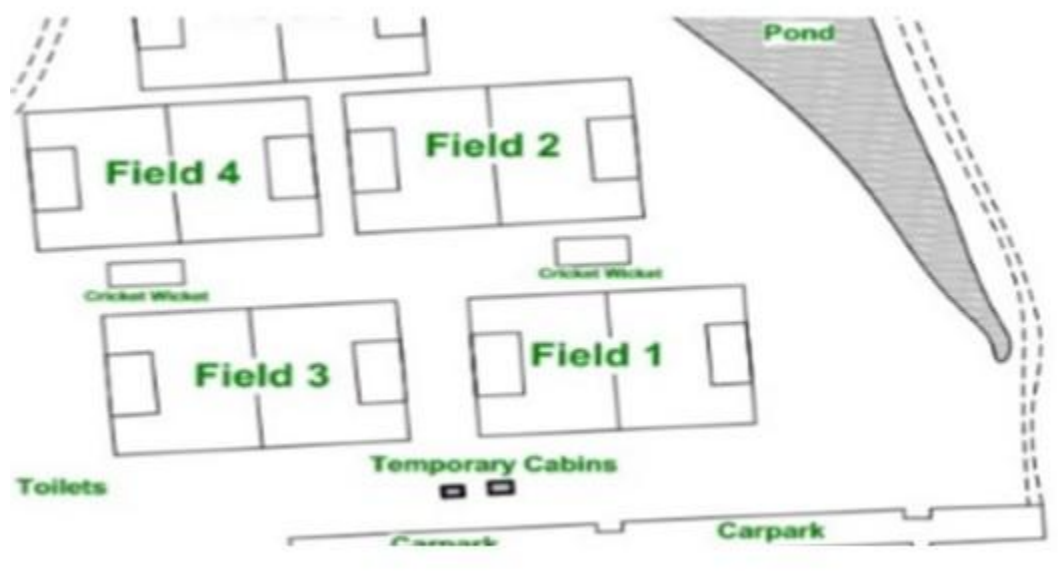
## Youth Football Information Sheet.

### Youth Football (13-17yrs) - Grade 13 (U13s) to Grade 17 (U17s)

Grade 13 to Grade 17 teams play 11 a side on a full-sized field.

#### Location:

Games are played at Home – Metro Park Millwater and away. Teams play in the Northern Regional Football Competition, alternating between Home and Away games. Away games are usually based in the North Harbour and West Auckland regions, but could be further away depending on the teams graded competition.



#### Time:

Teams play on Saturday mornings and early afternoons . Kickoff is typically after 11am

#### Season Dates:

The 2025 football season starts on 5th April for Youth players. The season finishes in September. If a lot of games have been cancelled due to bad weather; the season may be extended slightly.

**Uniform:**

Players must wear their uniform as supplied by the club. Shinpads and boots to be provided by parents or guardians. Socks are RDS Purple, and available from the club for \$15/pair, or two for \$25.

**Please take care of the uniform, so that it can be passed on when either not required, or replaced with a larger size. Wash in cold water, and air dry. Machine drying will ruin the sponsors decals. If damaged or lost, we will ask you to pay the replacement cost of \$90**

**Coach:**

Youth grade teams are coached by volunteers that hold certification for these grades and duties can be shared between several people, if needed.

RDS has a number of licensed coaches among its members who can share their experience and knowledge. Coaching is easily learned by watching or helping others.

**Manager:**

Each NRF Competition Team needs a manager, who will deal with the administrative side of the team, ensuring that everyone knows where they need to be and when, if the game is still on even though it's raining and whose turn it is to bring oranges etc. Like coaching this is a volunteer role.

No prior experience is necessary and, as with coaches, we cannot run the club without you, so please volunteer.

**Training:**

Training Sessions will be arranged by the coach & manager for each team. These are usually a weekday late afternoon evening.

**Game Day Format:**

1. Report In with Coach at the game venue. Be there at least 45 minutes before kick off.
2. Warm Up
3. Game Time (as appropriate to age)
4. End of Game – Player of the Day

**Attendance:**

Based on our team structure, it is important that we are made aware if you will not be attending a session due to whatever reason i.e. sickness, holiday. Coaches will note your absence, and if we are not aware of you being away it makes it difficult to ensure numbers within a team.

If you are unable to attend a session, please notify your coach (your coach will advise their preferred contact method). Their details are available in Friendly Manager.

**Cancellation:**

As a winter sport, football will frequently go ahead even if it's raining. Please dress accordingly.

**Match Day – NRF Competitions**

Northern Football Federation (NRF) works with clubs and on assessment games will only be cancelled if it is deemed that the conditions or fields are unsafe. Any decisions to cancel will be notified on our [FB Group Page](#) and Rodney District Sport web site.

Always check time and location of your games either on our FB Group/Page, NRF website or app or directly with your Coach or Manager.

**Training Field Cancellations**

Training will be cancelled if the fields have been closed by Auckland Council. You can check Auckland Council website [Sports Field Closures](#) which is updated daily by 1pm. Notification will be provided on the [FB Group page](#). If in doubt contact your Coach or Manager directly.

### **Setting Up / Packing Down:**

For home games, Youth Teams will need to set out goals and put up nets as well as sponsor boards for your pitch, if you are the first team to play for the day.

If your pitch is not being used after your game, please return all nets and sponsor boards to the shed. Parents are asked to share this work around the team as the coach and manager have plenty of things to carry and arrange without having to worry about this job too.

### **Equipment:**

Team coaches are supplied with balls, cones, bibs and nets (if required). The team's manager gets 'player of the day' trophy, and a supply of certificates to give the children during the season.

### **Friendly Manager System:**

RDS uses an application application (Friendly Manager) which all parents will access to, using the email address that you provided during registration.

1. To gain access simply go to [www.rdsports.co.nz](http://www.rdsports.co.nz), Click on the log-in/register option on the top right-hand side of the page.
2. Enter you email address in the username followed by the default password provided in your registration confirmation email received (some parents have reported this going to their Spam folders, so please check).
3. Update your password if prompted.
4. Once logged in, you will be able to see:
  - Your child's player profile
  - Update contact details
  - See your child's team and if you click on team name you will see your child's team, coach and contact details.
5. If you have any issues logging-in, please email [accounts@rdsports.co.nz](mailto:accounts@rdsports.co.nz)

### **Parking:**

There is free parking at Metro Park and in the surrounding streets. Children must be supervised at all times, especially in the carpark areas.