



ST PIUS X COLLEGE

CHATSWOOD

14th March, 2017

Dear Rugby Parents

Welcome to the St Pius Junior Rugby season 2017. Whilst I appreciate there is a lot of information outlined below, it is all pertinent, so please take the time to understand your son's requirements for this season.

Some important dates to take note of:

- **Thursday 23rd March:** Trial process begins during sport (Oxford Falls).
- **Saturday 25th March:** Trial games v St Aloysius/Cranbrook at Oxford Falls
- **Friday 7th April:** Year 6 Rugby Tour to Armidale departs
- **Wednesday 26th April:** Afternoon training at Beauchamp Park begins for U11's
- **Saturday 29th April:** Round 1 of the Competition (see draw attached).
- **Tuesday 2nd May:** Afternoon training at Beauchamp Park begins for Preps

Season Structure: This year we will field 2 x U11 traditional teams (12 per side), 2 x Prep (U12) traditional teams (15 per side) and 1 x Preps (U12) 7's team.

The 7's comp runs in conjunction with the traditional 15-a-side comp but at a neutral venue (Lindfield). It is for larger schools like us who have extra numbers and small schools who don't have enough players for traditional rugby. 7's is an exciting and fast-growing game that has grown rapidly due to inclusion in the Rio Olympics. Players see more action and more ball due to smaller numbers.

So, in the Preps (U12) age group: 15 players will form an 'A' team. Of the 28 remaining players, 10 will play 7's each week. Some players may wish to nominate for 7's rugby all season, otherwise selection will be rotated so boys experience one-third of their season in 7's and the remainder playing in the 'B' team (traditional rugby). I will create a roster for this purpose so all parents are aware of where and when they will be playing each week.

Uniform requirements:

- **Boots:** must be moulded (eg. blades) or have aluminium studs (plastic and metal-tipped screw-in studs are not permitted in our competition).
- **Mouthguards:** are compulsory (available from a local chemist, dentist or the Uniform Shop)
- **Clothing:** School jersey, shorts and socks must be worn for all games. Any rugby gear can be worn during training and Sport.
- **Protective gear:** Optional and can be used at the discretion of the player/parent, though should be IRB (International Rugby Board) approved – see tag on gear.

Registration & Availability:

There is a \$100 fee associated with playing Rugby for St Pius. This covers registration, referees and equipment, and will be charged to Term 3 accounts. Please note:

- **Boys who choose to play for the school make a commitment for the season and priority must be given to the school over a club side.**
- **Boys will be notified of their team before Round 1, though this may change before or during the competition, subject to form, illness, absence etc.**
- Should your son be unavailable due to absence or illness, please inform myself or the coach in advance or a team-mate if possible on the day.

IPSHA Policy:

Our governing body laws require parents and supporters to act as positive role models for the boys. Please support your sons with positive contributions and good sportsmanship.

No parents or spectators are allowed on the field during play or during half-time.

* An IPSHA 'Codes of Conduct' form is uploaded alongside this document.

Wet Weather:

Whilst our grounds at Oxford Falls are superb and matches would rarely be cancelled, we are at the mercy of opposition and local councils for many 'away' fixtures. Follow me on Twitter for up-to-the-minute updates concerning cancellations, late changes etc. The feed syncs to the school website.

Twitter Feed – @SPXJuniorSport - Sign up details in Woodchatta and on the College website.
St Pius Website update - <http://www.spx.nsw.edu.au/beyond-classroom/> (wet weather details)

Training:

Training is compulsory and will take place from 3.15 - 4.30pm at Beauchamp Park, Chatswood (Tuesday afternoons for Preps, Wednesday afternoons for U11's). Non-attendance at training can impact team selections. Boys will be escorted to the venue and may be collected at 4.30 pm or make their own way home. The 2nd weekly training session takes place at sport each Thursday.

Season Draw:

The Season Draw 2017, including venue details for opposition teams is almost finalised and will be posted on the school website and Portal. *There may be some changes throughout the season.*

Please check the Woodchatta (online) each Wed for changes to venues or start times that may arise during the course of the season.

Parental Assistance:

From the SPX Rugby Club.....

The SPX Rugby Club is a parent driven organisation which operates under the auspices of the College P&F and supports the St Pius X Sports staff to promote, enhance and uphold the proud Rugby traditions of St Pius X College. We actively encourage parents to become involved with the Club to enhance your son's rugby experience whilst at the College.

Information on the SPX Rugby Club and activities during the 2017 season will be communicated via the Rugby Club website (soon to be updated for the new season):
<http://pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au/index.php/sports/rugby-club>

Please also check the Woodchatta each week for current information on SPX Rugby Club news and for updated information on upcoming fixtures, including any last minute changes.

Parent Team Managers Required: All SPX teams require a parent to act as Team Manager to co-ordinate any communication on Rugby Club matters with parents and to provide any support required by the Coaches. If you can assist your son by acting as a Team Manager this season, please contact the SPX Rugby Club President, Paul O'Neill at:
rugbypresident@pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au or 0418 634 750

We are keen to hear from you as parents regarding any ideas or suggestions you may have on how we can continue to enhance your son's rugby experience at SPX.

I look forward to an enjoyable, progressive and successful season.

Mr Greg Virgona
Junior School Rugby Convenor
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