



Waterside Karori AFC

support@karorifootball.co.nz

From the Chairman

Kia ora members and club families as we head into the 2021 football season. The goals will be going up and pitches marked for what will hopefully be an uninterrupted, fun and successful season.



Credit: Young Rob Photography



Credit: VisualizD

It's been busy behind the scenes at the club and my thanks to all our parents – volunteers – committees and sponsors who put in the hours to make the club the best it can be. In the off-season we bid farewell to Rupert Crump in the senior men's space and Ryan Edwards in the youth space – both of whom made substantial contributions.

I've been very pleased with the coaching appointments we've made in Sam Smith stepping up naturally to lead our men and Sam Morrissey leading our W-League side as well as directing our youth programs. The Sam's are supported by a great panel of coaches in Kaley Ward, Jared Putt, Nigel Burn, Curtis Jones, Gavin Gee, Ollie Fletcher & Andy Vines. This is a highly qualified and experienced coaching team – passionate about delivering great experiences for all our players who are in good hands.

I'd like to highlight the work Kaley is doing in the girl's space – creating safe and fun football experiences for girls from first kicks all the way to the W-League side – the club is focused on building up our girls' program in readiness for World Cup 2023 in NZ. If your daughter is looking for maximum fun at the best game in town – get in touch with Kaley.

This year both the men's and woman's 1st teams are wearing "Sweet Louise" on the back to raise awareness for the amazing and important work this

org does for woman and their families dealing with breast cancer. An organization like this shouldn't have to focus so hard on raising funds to operate, so we are raising awareness and asking our community to support Sweet Louise with us.

Someone who won't thank me for mentioning him by name is Grant McKeen – top community man and founder of our platinum sponsor – IntegrationWorks. Thanks for your continued support Grant - the new player dug out will look brilliant on match day at Karori Park.

We held our AGM a few weeks ago where I was happy to report on the steps taken in the past 12 months to unify the club - lift the quality of our programs and come through a challenging year in good shape. I'm happy to share this report with anyone interested and always available for any questions/concerns or offers of help.

Again - my thanks to all our club staff and volunteers who contribute many hours to make Wharfies the best club in Wellington. Good luck to all our teams as you kick off over the next few weeks and I look forward to seeing my fellow Wharfies around the grounds.

Cheers

Mikey



Credit: Young Rob Photography



Credit: VisualizD

Double Header at Karori Park

Both top teams return to Karori Park this Friday 2 April!

Our women's team will be looking to build from their hard-fought loss to Palmerston North Marist in the semi finals of the Kelly Cup last weekend as they take on Victoria University in the 3rd place playoff. Kick off 12.30pm.

Central League football is back! Our men's first team kicked off their campaign against Miramar Rangers at David Farrington Park last Saturday. The boys took the lead in the first half but Miramar came out on top, equalising before half time and taking the lead in the second spell. Plenty to build on as we go again when we return to Karori Park for the first time this season to take on newly promoted Wainuiomata FC. Kick off 3pm.

Get on down and support the Wharf. BBQ, refreshments, and bar facilities available.



Friday 2 April Fixtures

Kelly Cup kick off 12.30pm

Central League kick off 3pm

There will be plenty more opportunities to support the clubs' top teams at Karori Park this season! On **Saturday 17 April** our first league double-header sees our women's first team up against Petone FC in the Ultra Football W-League and the boys battle it out with Wairarapa United.



Girls Open Day

Our inaugural Girls' Open Day on Sunday 14 March was a big success as the clubs' junior girls and W-League players came together to play some small-sided games at Terawhiti Turf. Our senior women's team had a great time getting to know some of our fantastic junior players. A huge thank you to all involved, and to all parents for bringing the girls along and making the event such a success. Big thanks, too, to Maia Vink from Capital Football for providing a bunch of prizes.

There is still time for girls to get into football with Waterside Karori this winter season! Registrations are now open for our enhanced Girls Skills Centre programme. Run by Kaley Ward, the programme has been extended this year to run two afternoons a week (Wednesday and Friday) to give more girls the opportunity to come along. Find out more at <http://www.karorifootball.co.nz/girls-skills-centre> or email support@karorifootball.co.nz

Football Fives Finale

The grand final of the Football Fives saw the Has Beans take home the silverware on Monday night!

A solid squad composed of the Dreamers finest, (and sometimes Mike Greene). Well done to all who took part in another successful season.



Swifts Talent Centre

Trials for the Junior Swifts Talent Centre programme were held on Sunday 28 February and Sunday 7 March. It has been great to see our junior Swifts players, both new and returning, out on the grass for their first two weeks of training for the winter Swifts Talent Centre programme. Congratulations to all players who have been selected.

Senior Social and Masters

2021 sees the Magpies progress to Capital 3 after dominating their league last year. Sealords and Boomers will be battling it out in Wellington 1, with the Rinston Weids and Swifts in W2 and W5 respectively.

The Fat Birds will be back for more Masters football after a successful first season -and they are looking forward to the new Parrot Dog range at the club bar as well as the football! The club will be represented in the over 45 league by a new Fossils off-shoot.

Our Masters teams continued their intensive season preparation by partaking in the Wharf Masters Bowls Championship last Saturday.



All six teams were represented, with the Fighting Irish picking up the coveted silverware!



Free Season of Football

Congratulations to Alex Zhang who won a free season of football at our stall at the Karori Karnival on Sunday 21 February.

We are pleased to have you at the Wharf Alex!



April Holiday Programme

Registrations for our April school holiday programme are now open! Bring your friends along for two weeks of three jam-packed days of football skills, challenges and tournaments. The programme is run by our dedicated club coaches and open to all junior players aged 6 – 14.

Cost: \$60 per day

Find out more at:
www.karorifootball.co.nz/holiday-programme or
email support@karorifootball.co.nz



Emerging Swifts

Registrations are now open for our Emerging Swifts programme. Sessions run on Monday afternoons and provide our Foundation Football players (grades 6 – 8) with structured training sessions delivered by our dedicated coaching staff.

Cost: \$180 (18 sessions)

Find out more at:
www.karorifootball.co.nz/emerging-swifts or
email support@karorifootball.co.nz



Key Dates

- 2 April:** Easter Fixtures at Karori Park
- 10 – 11 April:** Winter Season Start
- 17 April:** Double Header at Karori Park
- 20 – 22 April:** School Holiday Programme
- 27 – 29 April:** School Holiday Programme
- 3 May –** Emerging Swifts begins
- 5 & 7 May:** Girls Skills Centre begins

Have something for next month's round up? Send your Wharfies news to support@karorifootball.co.nz

