

2020 Interleague/NGA Program Overview

Background

Since 2018 the South Metro Junior Football League (SMJFL) and St Kilda Football Club (St Kilda FC) have worked together to deliver a single development and talent pathway program in the SMJFL region.

In 2020, St Kilda FC's Next Generation Academy (NGA) for 11 to 15 years in age will again partner with the SMJFL's Interleague Program. This exciting partnership will see AFL expertise collaborating with the existing interleague program to provide SMJFL players the highest level of coaching and personal development in their journey as a player. The St Kilda FC's NGA will be the sole pathway program for SMJFL players 11 to 15 years of age to participate in, in the region.

The purpose of St Kilda FC's NGA is to identify and develop talented players – both male and female and will have a focus on players with Indigenous and multicultural heritage from ages 11-18. St Kilda FC's NGA region covers a large area from Port Melbourne to Frankston. SMJFL are within the northern part of the region, known as the 'Northern Hub' with the remaining region known as the 'Southern Hub'. St Kilda FC have been given the responsibility by AFL Victoria to oversee the programs from 11-18 in the region and will work with SMJFL to deliver its Interleague program (ages 11-15) and NAB League clubs (ages 16-18).

At the end of the Under 15 program players are recruited to NAB League club programs based on their residential address. In the SMJFL region this is predominantly the Sandringham Dragons, however, a small number of SMJFL players will be in the Oakleigh Chargers or Dandenong Stingrays zones.

The player [Junior Talent Pathway](#) graphic demonstrates for SMJFL players dependant on age group. St Kilda FC NGA players in the Under 14 or 15 programs may be selected to represent SMJFL at AFL Victoria's annual Victorian Metro Championships. This selection is a fantastic opportunity to compete against peers from other leagues. A high percentage of SMJFL players competing in interleague have been successful in being selected into NAB League club programs as a pathway to being drafted to the AFL and AFLW.

Player Nominations/Invitations

SMJFL clubs are invited to provide a set number of nominations per program. The focus is on identifying players who display some, or all, of the following attributes:

- **Football:** Kicking, Decision Making, clean hands, ball winning ability
- **Physical:** Speed, Endurance, Power, scope for future body development
- **Character & Competitiveness:** Players who display a strong personal brand on and off the field and are team players.

These nominations are then assessed by the SMJFL and St Kilda FC prior to invitations being sent to players. Talented Indigenous and Multicultural players may be selected outside of the nomination process into the program.

To be involved in the Interleague Program, players are subject to the [Interleague Eligibility Criteria](#). Any requests for an exemption to the eligibility criteria must be submitted via the online form: <http://smjfl.com.au/interleague-exemption-request/>.



Interleague Selection

All players invited to be part of the program will be eligible for Interleague selection. However, each club will have a cap on the number of players selected per age group. This cap is in line with the number of nominations each club was given to submit.

Program Details

Under 12 Boys & Girls

A free four-week program that offers both girls and boys exposure to additional coaching and skill development.

SMJFL clubs can nominate two players each - boys (2) and girls (2). At the completion of the 4-week program, players will participate in an Intraleague representative match - SMJFL players vs SMJFL players. This match is known as the "Community Cup" and is sponsored by both St Kilda FC and Melbourne FC with opposing teams wearing one of the AFL club's guernseys. The U12 program begins in August and concludes with the "Community Cup" at the beginning of September.

Under 13 Boys & Girls

An 8-week program focused on fundamental skills and off-field development. The program begins in July and concludes with IntraSquad matches (details TBC).

Under 14 Boys

A 14-week program commencing in February providing participants the opportunity to develop their football skills, training ethics and off-field skills as well as providing insight into playing representative football.

After 10 sessions, approximately 50 players will be selected to play in the AFL Victoria Metro Junior Championships played over the Queen's Birthday weekend in June. Players not selected for the AFL Victoria Metro Junior Championships will continue to train in the NGA program working on fundamental skills and off-field development.

Selected players will be invited to participate in further development opportunities in the September school holidays.

Under 15 Boys & Girls

A 14-week program, for both boys and girls commencing in February providing participants the opportunity to develop their football skills, training ethics and off-field skills as well as providing insight into playing representative football.

After 10 sessions, approximately 50 players will be selected to play in the AFL Victoria Metro Junior Championships played over the Queen's Birthday weekend in June. Players not selected for the AFL Victoria Metro Junior Championships will continue to train in the NGA program working on fundamental skills and off-field development.

Selected players will be invited to participate in a NAB League transition program after their team has finished with SMJFL commitments.

Program Costs

Age Group	Cost	Included
U12	\$0	Training program & match
U13	\$210	Training program, training top, shorts & cap
U14 & U15	\$310 (+\$220 for those selected for Metro Champs)	Training program, training top, shorts & cap (+shorts, socks, jumper, hoodie, bag, warm up top)

Program Dates

U12 Boys & Girls

Date	Day	Activity
11/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
18/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
25/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
1/09/2020	Tuesday	Training
6/09/2020	Sunday	Game

U13 Boys & Girls

Date	Day	Activity
14/07/2020	Tuesday	Training
21/07/2020	Tuesday	Training
28/07/2020	Tuesday	Training
4/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
11/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
18/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
25/08/2020	Tuesday	Training
1/09/2020	Tuesday	Training
TBC	TBC	IntraSquad Games

U14 Boys

Date	Day	Activity
11/12/2019	Wednesday	Induction
12/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 1
19/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 2
26/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 3
4/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 4
11/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 5
18/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 6
25/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 7
1/04/2020	Wednesday	School Holidays - No Training
8/04/2020	Wednesday	School Holidays - No Training
15/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 8
22/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 9
29/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 10
6/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 1
13/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 2
20/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 3
21/05/2020	Thursday	Jumper Presentation
27/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Game - 1
3/06/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 4
6/06/2020	Saturday	Metro Champs Game - 2
8/06/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Game - 3
After SMJFL Games	TBC	Further Training Sessions/NGA Game

U15 Boys

Date	Day	Activity
4/12/2019	Wednesday	Induction
2/02/2020	Sunday	Testing Day
12/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 1
19/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 2
26/02/2020	Wednesday	Training - 3
4/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 4
11/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 5
18/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 6
25/03/2020	Wednesday	Training - 7
1/04/2020	Wednesday	School Holidays - No Training
8/04/2020	Wednesday	School Holidays - No Training
15/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 8
22/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 9
29/04/2020	Wednesday	Training - 10
6/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 1
13/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 2
20/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 3
21/05/2020	Thursday	Jumper Presentation
27/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Game - 1
3/06/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Training - 4
6/06/2020	Saturday	Metro Champs Game - 2
8/06/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Game - 3
After SMJFL Games	TBC	NAB League Transition Program

U15 Girls

Date	Day	Activity
4/12/2019	Wednesday	Induction
2/02/2020	Sunday	Testing Day
10/02/2020	Monday	Training - 1
17/02/2020	Monday	Training - 2
24/02/2020	Monday	Training - 3
2/03/2020	Monday	Training - 4
9/03/2020	Monday	Labour Day - No Training
16/03/2020	Monday	Training - 5
23/03/2020	Monday	Training - 6
30/03/2020	Monday	School Holidays - No Training
6/04/2020	Monday	School Holidays - No Training
14/04/2020	Tuesday*	Training - 7
20/04/2020	Monday	Training - 8
28/04/2020	Tuesday*	Training - 9
4/05/2020	Monday	Training - 10
11/05/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Training - 1
18/05/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Training - 2
21/05/2020	Thursday	Jumper Presentation
25/05/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Training - 3
27/05/2020	Wednesday	Metro Champs Game - 1
3/06/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Training - 4
6/06/2020	Saturday	Metro Champs Game - 2
8/06/2020	Monday	Metro Champs Game - 3
After SMJFL Games	TBC	NAB League Transition Program

* Public Holiday on Monday

Junior Talent Pathway



Junior Talent Pathway for SMJFL Players

