

Junior Premier League Girls Competition

## **EXCITING NEWS:**

Ashburton United has been successful in its application to participate in the inaugural Football Victoria Junior Premier League. What this means is that the club is required to field three junior girls' teams at u13, u15 and u17 age groups for the 2023 season!

This performance pathway opportunity is an important step in working towards the club's vision to provide tailored pathways for all players. As you may know, there is currently a successful junior boy's NPL program at Ashburton and we hope to match the energy and success of that program. If this year goes well, there is the potential for the club to be awarded a coveted Girl's NPL licence, which gives our junior girls who aspire to play at high-level of senior women's football a direct pathway that has not previously existed at Ashburton United.

To facilitate getting this up and running, please talk to your daughters tonight about getting involved. Have a look at the Junior Premier League Fact Sheet (attached) and, if interested, fill out the expression of interest form.

Keep an eye on Team App for more info over the next few weeks. We plan to have a parent meeting to answer any questions you might have. Please note that the club will extend the expression of interest to the wider community but will prioritise its current Ashburton United players for participation in the Junior Premier League. The club will also continue its commitment to providing its Community program for our junior girls who want to play football without the higher level of commitment.

In the context of the Women's World Cup in Australia this year, this couldn't have happened at a better time. This is a huge opportunity for our club. I know many of you would know the club has wanted girls to have the same opportunities as the boys at the club, and this is a big and welcome step in that direction. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved in supporting our Women and Girls' program.

Kind regards, Martin Holt and the AUSC Women and Girls' sub-committee. #goashygirls