

WAIBOP Y-LEAGUE – 2023



Objective

To provide a football environment that is development driven, encourages good performance ahead of results, and requires accountability for player development and the growth of the game.

Age Groups

Mixed Federation Y-League

- u13 (11v11) (players born 2010)
- u14 (11v11) (players born 2009)
- u16 (11v11) (players born 2007-2008)

Entry Requirements

1. Players

- Players must be registered in the NZ Football national online registration system - Comet
- Players can only be registered for one club, i.e. a player cannot play for one club on Saturday, and a different club on Sunday
- Home Grown players** – a minimum of 10 players in each squad must have been registered with the club for the previous two seasons.

Note: the u13 league requires players to have been registered for one previous season.

- *Home Grown players are players that have been registered with a club or MOU club for 2 or more consecutive seasons prior to the current season. i.e. for 2023 – registered to the club/MOU club in 2021 & 2022.*
- *Only applies to players moving between Federation Y-League clubs, does not apply to players moving from community clubs to Federation Y-League clubs*

- Maximum number of players per game day squad = 16

2. Dispensations

In general, all players should play in their appropriate age group (born 2010 = u13). However, it is recognised that player development is not linear, and it is therefore important that players are challenged appropriately irrespective of their age. Dispensation for players to play up or down an age group as below.

- Each match day squad (max 16 players) must have at least 12 that are born in the appropriate age group. This provides the opportunity for a maximum of 4 players to be 'dispensated' (moved up 1 age group or moved down 1 age group).
- The dispensated players can change at any time but the ratio must remain the same for each match. If you have a smaller squad then that will reduce the number of dispensated players.
- Fully accredited NZF TDP clubs will not be required to seek dispensations and will be able to place players in the age group that best suits their individual development requirements.
- No other dispensations requests will be considered.
- Clubs must provide a full list of potential 'Dispensated Players' to WaiBOP Football prior to the start of the season. Any changes to the list must be signed off by WaiBOP Football at least 24 hours prior to match day.

- The purpose of this dispensation rule is to provide clubs with the opportunity to better support individual players with their development.

3. Coaches

WaiBOP Y-League - coach qualification minimum requirements for 2023

Age Group	Head Coach	GK coach
u13 Mixed	NZF Junior Level 2 or Youth Level 2	NZF GK Level 1
u14 Mixed	NZF Youth Level 2	NZF GK Level 1
u16 Mixed	NZF C Licence (attended course)	NZF GK Level 1

***Please note:** You must have attended the Junior L1 or Youth L1 course prior to attending the respective Level 2 course.

- The minimum qualification requirements for coaches are shown above, these must be confirmed prior to entering your team for the 2023 season. Entries will not be accepted unless the appointed coach has completed the appropriate course.
- Each club entering a team(s) must have an appointed NZ Football Level 1 qualified Goalkeeper coach to work with their respective Goalkeepers.

4. Clubs

- Clubs must provide a suitable home ground with supporting facilities. The ground size must meet the NZF Youth Framework recommendations for each age group.
- All grounds must be properly marked and 'Technical Areas' highlighted with markings or cones for each Y League game.
- Game day facilities should include a separate changing room for each team, and another for the referees.
- Clubs should offer a pathway to senior football (either through their club or via a formal link to another senior club).
- Clubs can enter more than one team per age group, but only if space is available and approved by WaiBOP Football.
- All games will be played on Sunday unless approval is gained from WaiBOP Football to play on an alternate day.
- Each team must have a qualified Community Referee nominated as part of the team entry.

New club entry

- Any non-FYL club wishing to enter new teams into the Federation Youth League for the first time must meet all the entry criteria and gain approval from WaiBOP Football.
- Team entry will only be available into the lowest available age group (u13s) and players must have been registered with the club for the previous season.
- Entry into the older age groups will only be available if teams are also entered into the younger age groups.

National Identification

- Federation staff will work closely with all Y League clubs/coaches to identify and monitor players with potential for selection into NZF age group programmes.

Competition Structure

- Each competition with 8-10 teams entered and playing 2-3 rounds (home & away).
- 2x Festival Days at centralised venues (tbc)

3. The final decision on 2023 formats will be confirmed and communicated to clubs once entries are known.

Teams: 11v11 (as per the NZ Football Youth Framework)

Game Day Squad size: Maximum 16 players

Substitutes: Maximum 5 who can rotate throughout the game (Rolling)

Goal/Field size: All playing fields and goals must meet the NZF Youth Framework recommendations for size.

Proposed playing dates in 2023

Match days (dependent on entry numbers)

[18 Match Days – including possible Festival Days]

- April 30th
- May 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
- June 11th, 18th, 25th (no games over Queens Birthday weekend)
- July 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th (no games middle weekend of school holidays)
- August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th
- September 3rd, 10th

Preparation Phase (March-April 2023)

WaiBOP Football will organise pre-season games to assist teams/coaches with preparation for the competition phase of the season.

Below is an example of how this may work.

- **Preparation Phase (March-April)**
- **Dates:** Sunday 19th & 26th March & Sunday 2nd April 2023
- **Venues:** TBC (one venue per age group)
- **Format:** Teams will play 3x 35/40min periods against three different opposition (final format will depend on number of teams involved and available facilities).

Entry

Entry details for the WaiBOP Federation Y Leagues will be confirmed and sent to clubs before November 11th, 2022. If your club wishes to enter a team(s) in the WaiBOP Federation Y Leagues in 2023 you must enter your team in Comet by Friday 24th March 2023. The head coach for each team must also be confirmed and entered in Comet by this date. Entries after this date will only be considered if space is available in the respective leagues.