



# 2023 CHAMPIONS CUP

Sunday, 10th September

Cromer Park, Charles Bean Oval & Cammeray Oval

# **EVENT OVERVIEW**

Manly Warringah Football Association and Northern Suburbs Football Association are delighted to confirm the third edition of the Champions Cup.

The Champions Cup is now an annual event in the competitions calendar for both associations. This event sees all MWFA and NSFA teams that have been invited to compete in the Football NSW Champions of Champions tournament play against one another in preparation for their opening Champion of Champions game.

The first Champions Cup was held in 2020 as a result of Champion of Champions being cancelled that year. After the 2021 edition was cancelled as part of the grassroots season being abandoned, the 2022 Champions Cup was a great success.

Two perpetual trophies are awarded - one to the association that wins the women's competition and one to the association that wins the men's competition. MWFA will be looking to retain both titles after dual success in 2022.

This year's Champions Cup will take place on Sunday, September 10th. Cromer Park will host the Girls and Women's games, while the Boys and Men's games will be split between Charles Bean Oval and Cammeray Oval. In total, 18 games will be played across the three venues - we are looking forward to plenty of competitive football!

Teams that are representing the respective associations at this year's Champions of Champions tournament will be automatically entered into the Champions Cup.

#### **Event Operations**

- Referees for games at Cromer Park will be provided by the MWFRA.
- Referees for games at Charles Bean Oval & Cammeray Oval will be provided by the NSFRA.
- A draw will be recorded if the scores are level at full time there will not be extra time or penalties.
- Participating teams must clear their technical area/team bench of any rubbish or equipment before handing over to the next team.
- Dribl will be used for the event.

MWFA and NSFA would like to thank all referees, officials and association board members for their input and presence at the Champions Cup.

# **EVENT SCHEDULE**

### Sunday 10th September

Girls and Women's Competition

### **Cromer Park Field 1**

| Age Group     | MWFA Team        | NSFA Team       | Kickoff |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 16 Girls      | Pittwater        | Lindfield       | 9:00am  |
| 18 Girls      | Manly Vale       | Hornsby Heights | 10:30am |
| O30 Women     | Forest Killarney | Kissing Point   | 12:30pm |
| All Age Women | Seaforth         | Lindfield       | 2:30pm  |

### **Cromer Park Field 2**

| Age Group | MWFA Team          | NSFA Team        | Kickoff |
|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| 12 Girls  | Curl Curl          | Lindfield        | 9:00am  |
| 13 Girls  | <b>BTH Raiders</b> | North Sydney Utd | 10:30am |
| 14 Girls  | CC Strikers        | Northbridge      | 12:00pm |
| 15 Girls  | Wakehurst          | Lindfield        | 1:30pm  |

# **EVENT SCHEDULE**

### Sunday 10th September

Boys & Men's Competition

### Charles Bean Oval

| Age Group   | NSFA Team          | MWFA Team        | Kickoff |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| 15 Boys     | Lindfield          | Forest Killarney | 9:00am  |
| 16 Boys     | North Sydney Utd   | St Augustine's A | 10:30am |
| 18 Men      | Lindfield          | Wakehurst A      | 12:00pm |
| 21 Men      | North Sydney Utd   | Brookvale        | 2:00pm  |
| All Age Men | Willoughby Dalleys | Pittwater        | 4:00pm  |

### Cammeray Oval

| Age Group | NSFA Team        | MWFA Team   | Kickoff |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|---------|
| 12 Boys   | North Sydney Utd | Manly Vale  | 9:00am  |
| 13 Boys   | Northbridge      | BTH Raiders | 10:30am |
| 14 Boys   | Lindfield        | CC Strikers | 12:00pm |
| O35 Men   | Lindfield        | Pittwater A | 1:30pm  |
| O45 Men   | North Sydney Utd | Mosman A    | 3:30pm  |

#### 12 Girls

#### Curl Curl

Curl Curl were undefeated on the way to becoming MWFA Champions, winning eight and drawing four games during their league season. Defence was the strong point for Curl Curl with only five goals conceded, so they will be a difficult opponent to break down.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield had a great 2023 season as they secured the premiership and won the Grand Final 3-0 against North Sydney United. The team had a flawless campaign, winning all 15 games and conceding only 4 goals. It will be an interesting matchup in the Champions Cup as they take on the unbeaten Curl Curl.

#### 13 Girls

#### **Belrose-Terrey Hills Raiders**

It's been a wonderful season for the Raiders. They lost only one game on the way to becoming league Champions, and followed that success with victory in the end-of-season Knockout Cup. BTH were also triumphant in this year's State Cup Final, defeating fellow MWFA side Pittwater RSL - can the Raiders do the Quadruple?

#### North Sydney United

North Sydney had a dominant campaign, winning all 17 games in the league and claiming a narrow 2-1 victory over Lindfield to win the Finals Series. North Sydney have looked unbeatable the entire season as they scored 95 goals on their way to the Under 13 Diamond League Premiership. They will be looking to continue their fine form by denying Belrose-Terrey Hills Raiders the Quadruple.

#### 14 Girls

#### **Collaroy Cromer Strikers**

Strikers won 13 of their 14 league games, scoring 49 goals and conceding only eight. They also won the Knockout Cup after a single goal was enough to defeat Wakehurst on MWFA Grand Final Day. This team had a great run in the State Cup and nearly won another trophy, but they lost 1-0 to Lindfield in the State Cup Final.

#### Northbridge

Northbridge have looked very strong in the league, finishing second in the G14/15 Diamond league after a few unlucky draws. They drew to a very strong Lindfield team in Round 14, who went on to win the State Cup. Northbridge will be looking to end the season with some silverware by beating Collaroy Cromer Strikers in the Champions Cup.

#### 15 Girls

#### Wakehurst

The Tigers are on the prowl for another trophy after amassing a perfect record in the league, winning all seventeen of their games. Their attack has been on fire in 2023, scoring at a rate of over 5.5 goals per game, and at the other end Wakehurst have been almost impenetrable, with only two goals conceded during their league campaign.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield won the G14/15 Diamond League premiership convincingly, scoring 64 goals in the season and conceding only 7. They also completed the double by winning the State Cup after beating Collaroy Cromer Strikers 1-0 in the final. They will be aiming to complete the treble when they face Wakehurst in the Champions Cup.

#### 16 Girls

#### **Pittwater RSL**

Pittwater have already won three titles this season. The Greens were undefeated during the league season and carried that form into the finals, defeating Seaforth 2-0 on Grand Final Day to become Knockout Cup winners. They also won the State Cup after beating Northbridge 2-1 in the Final - any team that gets the better of Pittwater will certainly have earned the victory.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield have completed the double this season, as they won the G16 Diamond League Premiership and the Grand Finals Series. They lost just one game in the league and beat State Cup finalists Northbridge 2-1 to claim the Grand Finals Series. After an unlucky 0-1 loss to Pittwater RSL in the State Cup Semi Finals, Lindfield will be looking for some revenge as they face them again in the Champions Cup. Lindfield have a chance at the treble as they look to deny Pittwater their fourth title of the season.

#### 18 Women

#### **Manly Vale**

Vale were the queens of their Friday night competition, winning the MWFA W18-1 league by eight points from nearest challengers Brookvale. They were also good on Sundays, with a strong run in the State Cup leading to an appearance in the Final, where unfortunately they were defeated by Shellharbour from Football South Coast.

#### **Hornsby Heights**

Hornsby Heights have had a successful campaign as they claimed the G18 Diamond League Premiership over last season's winners Lindfield, scoring 44 goals on their way to the title. They also beat a Women's All Age team in the first round of the NSFA Women's Cup, but lost to the Premier League Premiers in the Cup Competition. They will be on the hunt for their second title as they face Manly Vale in the Champions Cup.

#### **Over 30 Women**

#### **Forest Killarney**

This team has shown that age is no barrier: they were undefeated champions of the MWFA O40-1 competition, and won a playoff game against Pittwater's WAL-2 team to become MWFA's representative in the Champion of Champions Over 30 Women's division. With 80 goals scored during the league campaign, Forest will be a stern test for opposing defences.

#### **Kissing Point**

The Over 30 Women are the sole representative from Kissing Point in this season's Champions Cup. After losing only one match across the 2023 season, they will be on the hunt to defeat Manly's elite women in their preparation match before the Champion of Champions kicks off. For some of the team, this will be their first taste of tournament football.

#### All Age Women

#### Seaforth

Seaforth come into the Champions Cup having already won three trophies this year. They beat Wakehurst on penalties to win the MWFA Challenge Cup, and won an all-MWFA clash in the State Cup Final, defeating Beacon Hill by a single goal. After a tense battle in the league, Seaforth pipped Beacon Hill to the MWFA WPL title by a single point - they have lots of experience in high pressure games.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield's dominance was clear for all to see in 2023 – 18 games played and 18 games undefeated. Scoring 52 goals and conceding only 12, the Lindfield women were unstoppable in the Women's Premier League. After narrowly missing out on securing the NSFA Women's Cup, they will be looking to exact revenge against the elite of Manly Warringah before taking strides in the Champion of Champions tournament.

#### 12 Boys

#### **Manly Vale**

Vale are yet to taste defeat in 2023. They won their league with 15 wins and three draws, and a pair of 4-0 victories over Wakehurst and St Augustine's meant they added the Knockout Cup to their League Championship. Vale's defence has been in brilliant form, with seven clean sheets in their last ten games.

#### **North Sydney United**

North Sydney won a tight Super League competition, finishing top of pool A with a record of eight wins, one draw and one loss. Unfortunately they weren't able to add to their premiership win, having narrowly lost to St Ives in the Finals Series. They will be out to avenge that loss against a strong Manly Vale team.

#### 13 Boys

#### **Belrose-Terrey Hills Raiders**

The Raiders already have three trophies in their possession after a brilliant campaign. They won the league after scoring almost four goals per game, and Raiders claimed the Knockout Cup by defeating Dee Why on penalties. Success in the State Cup Final was earned after a thrilling 4-2 win over Kellyville Kolts - this is definitely a team to watch.

#### Northbridge

Northbridge pipped reigning champions Mt Colah to the U13 Super League title. They were able to do the double, having also defeated Mt Colah in the Grand Final, with the winner coming in Golden Goal extra time. Northbridge only lost two games all season and will be confident of having a good run in the Champion of Champions competition.

#### 14 Boys

#### **Collaroy Cromer Strikers**

Strikers dominated their league, eventually winning the MWFA 14-1 competition with a ten point margin to second place. Knockout Cup success came after a 5-0 triumph over Wakehurst, while their State Cup run was ended in the semi-finals with an extra time defeat to Balgownie, so this is a team who will not be short on confidence.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield secured the premiership with a draw against Northbridge on the final day of the season. The draw was enough for Lindfield to finish top of the table by two points in a strong Super League competition. The team will be looking to bounce back after a disappointing 3-0 loss in the Grand Final.

#### 15 Boys

#### **Forest Killarney**

Forest only suffered one defeat on their way to claiming the league title, and they were also victorious in the State Cup - their excellent run in that competition led to a trophy after a 3-1 win over Banksia Tigers from Football St George in the Final. They nearly added the MWFA Knockout title as well but would be denied on Grand Final day, losing to BTH Raiders on penalties.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield finished premiers by the narrowest of margins, having finished above Berowra FC by one point. Their strength clearly lies in attack, having scored 50 goals in 17 games. The team had a disappointing finish to the season with a 3-1 loss in the Semi-Finals. Lindfield will be looking to put in an improved performance against Forest Killarney.

#### 16 Boys

#### St Augustine's A

Saints earned the right to be MWFA's representatives in this year's Champion of Champions after a superb league campaign - they won 12 out of their 14 fixtures, scoring at a rate of almost four goals per game. This team ended up with an eight point buffer to second placed BTH Raiders, so opponents will be well advised to not take them lightly.

#### North Sydney United

North Sydney Utd have had a super season, completing the treble by claiming the Premiership, Finals Series & the Vice-Presidents shield. The team have shown that they have a strong winning mentality and certainly know how to win a penalty shootout, with their wins in the Finals & Shield going down to the wire. North Sydney's defence catches the eye - only nine goals conceded in 14 competition games.

#### 18 Men

#### Wakehurst A

Wakehurst were undefeated champions of the MWFA 18-1 competition, winning threequarters of their games over the course of the season. In addition to their league success, Wakehurst also reached the State Cup quarter-finals, where they would lose a tight game 2-1 to Burwood from Football Canterbury.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield is a talented team that has had a great season, having won the U17 State Cup as well as claiming the U18 Super League competition despite being a year younger than their opponents. They will be looking to go deep into the tournament and will be able to draw upon their experience of winning the U13 COC competition back in 2019.

#### 21 Men

#### Brookvale

One of the few teams to claim their league with a 100% winning record, Brookvale have displayed fine form throughout the 2023 campaign. They scored 55 goals in 12 games it will take a sterling defensive effort to keep their attack quiet. The State Cup was also a fruitful endeavour, with Brookvale reaching the semi-finals before losing on penalties to Cronulla Seagulls.

#### North Sydney United

In arguably one of the most exhilarating performances by a single team, this North Sydney United team in All Age Division 2 Reserves scored a dazzling 90 goals in 18 games and only conceded nine. A superb display from the Under 21s saw them take out the title with six games to spare. Can they continue their overall dominance of the Division 2 competition into the prestigious Champion of Champions tournament and be the first NSFA team in recent times to win the Under 21 tournament?

#### Over 35 Men

#### **Pittwater RSL A**

Pittwater won their league competition after losing only once during the campaign. They scored at an impressive rate of over five goals per game and continued that form into the MWFA finals series, claiming the Knockout Cup with a 4-0 victory over Mosman. The Greens have been in excellent defensive form recently, with three clean sheets in their last four fixtures.

#### Lindfield

Lindfield's Division 1 team had one of the strongest defences seen across NSFA's Division 1 sides, with only ten goals conceded across the entire season. After collecting their first ever Over 35's Cup win on the weekend, they will be coming into the Champions Cup with some great form as they look to go far in the FNSW tournament.

#### Over 45 Men

#### Mosman A

The Whales were almost perfect during the league season, earning 43 out of a possible 45 points to be convincing winners of the O45-1 division. With only eight goals conceded in the league, Mosman certainly know how to keep things tight at the back, and they will come into this clash with two trophies in their possession after a 3-0 win over Manly Allambie on MWFA Grand Final Day.

#### **North Sydney United**

A well-rounded display from the North Sydney United Over 45s saw them take out the Division 1 title in 2023. North Sydney will look to continue the form that saw them win the Grand Final as well as the Over 45s Premiership, into their first foray in the Champion of Champions competition.

#### All Age Men

#### **Pittwater RSL**

The Greens won their first trophy of 2023 when they defeated Narrabeen 2-0 in the MWFA Challenge Cup Final. Their battles with Narrabeen continued into the league season, and Pittwater claimed the league championship by a single point after winning their final nine games of the campaign. Winning has become a habit for Pittwater - this is a team that will take some stopping.

#### Willoughby Dalleys

Willoughby Dalleys came out on top in what was one of NSFA's most competitive Men's Premier League seasons to date - the battle went to the final round of the season. Dalleys were 45 minutes away from losing the title after being 2-0 down at half-time, however three second-half goals led to them being the victors of the Premier League for 2023. Can they carry this form into the Champions Cup preceding the Champion of Champions?