



WANGARATTA RANGERS BUDDY PROGRAM

Program

2026 Season Buddy Program

Purpose

The Buddy Program connects senior players with junior players and their families to help build confidence, strengthen club culture, and ensure all members feel welcomed, supported and included throughout the season.

How it works

What is it?

- Each participating junior family is paired with a senior player for the season
 - The pairing is organised by the Club based on personalities & playing positions and is intentional and targeted to allow for the best growth and development of your child
 - The buddy is a friendly, consistent point of contact — not a coach or supervisor. They are a volunteer club member.
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Role of the Senior Buddy

Senior buddies are expected to:

- Introduce themselves to the junior player and their parent/guardian early in the season
 - Be approachable, positive and inclusive at training, games and club events
 - Encourage and support the junior player's participation and
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development by helping them out at training every now and then and showing an interest on game day

- Check in occasionally during the season
 - Attend at least one junior game, training session or club event where possible
 - Lead by example in behaviour, sportsmanship and respect
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**Role of
Junior
Families**

Junior families are encouraged to:

- Engage with their buddy and support their child to build the connection
- Use the buddy as a point of contact for general club questions
- Maintain normal parental supervision and responsibility at all times
- Provide feedback to the club if needed, you can speak to our Child Safe Officer, Carla Sanders, or any of the Committee members, our details are on our webpage www.wangarattarangers.com

Expectations

Child Safety

To ensure a safe and positive environment:

- All participants must follow the club's Child Safe & Wellbeing Policy and Code of Conduct policies (found on our webpage)
 - All communication must be appropriate and, where relevant, and with the knowledge and consent of the child's parent
 - No private one-on-one meetings outside of club activities
 - No transport arrangements between buddies and
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junior players

- All interactions occur within club settings (training, games, events)

**What This Is
(and Isn't)**

This program is about:

- Building connections
- Supporting confidence and enjoyment
- Strengthening our club community
- Sharing the love of baseball

This program is not:

- Coaching or formal training
- Babysitting or supervision
- A significant time commitment

**Time
Commitment**

The program is designed to be simple and manageable:

- One introduction early in the season
- A small number of informal check-ins across the season
- Attendance at one junior game or event (where possible)

Yes, we have read the above guidelines and are interested in a buddy for our child and would like to take part in the 2026 Season Buddy Program.

Date

Parent/Guardian

Signature

Child Name

