

CHRISTCHURCH BULLDOGS AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT



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[www.christchurchbulldogs.co.nz](http://www.christchurchbulldogs.co.nz)

[www.afl.com.au](http://www.afl.com.au)



**Saturday August 22nd**

**Strathconan Park**

**Fairlie**

**11.30am Kwikick session - 5 - 16yrs**



**2pm Christchurch Bulldogs vs Otago Riot**



## **Message from the Christchurch Bulldogs President**

Greetings and welcome to this historic occasion, without doubt the first time Australian Football has been played in the McKenzie Basin. The Christchurch Bulldogs and the Otago Riot today embark on their 2009 seasons and we appreciate the efforts of Jason Beck and the McKenzie Rugby Club in making this game a reality. To the Fairlie locals - we look forward to enjoying some fellowship with you all and we thank you again for your hospitality.

**Steve Langridge**

## **What is this Aussie Rules game??**

Whether it is called Australian Football, Australian Rules Football, "Aussie Rules", the VFL, the AFL, Australia's only indigenous football code is officially entitled 'Australian football'. AFL refers to the elite Australian football competition known as the Australian Football League.

Often referred to as 'Ariel Ping-Pong' the game has actually been played in NZ since the 1800's and in the early 1900's there were over 100 teams in this country. There are now 4 established leagues in NZ and with the development of the Otago Australian Rules Football Club the game is set to flourish in the Deep South.

The rules of the game are generally straightforward – 4 posts at each end, 6 points for a kick through the larger middle two posts and 1 point for a kick between the larger & smaller posts to the side. Players may dispose of the ball by kicking or 'handballing' the ball. If a player catches the ball after it has been kicked 15 metres or more it is called a Mark and the player is able to then dispose of the ball without being impeded by an opponent.

A player may be tackled between the knee & shoulder, however the aim is generally to tackle around the torso area and prevent the player with the ball from disposing of it effectively. If the player with the ball does not dispose of the ball after being tackled a free kick is awarded to the player making the tackle.

There is no 'offside' rule and the ball may be passed in any direction.

Only 4 players from each team are allowed in the centre square at the start of each quarter or when the game restarts after a goal is scored.

Games are played over 4 x 20 minute quarters.

There are usually 18 players on the field from each team; however today the game may be played with fewer players, due to many players from both sides having representative rugby commitments.

## **Kiwikick – what is it?**

Kiwikick is a national coaching program designed to teach kids of primary to intermediate school age motor skills and ball skills and to introduce them to the opportunity to play Aussie Rules in a safe environment. Based on the hugely successful Auskick programme that is delivered to over 250,000 kids every year in Australia. There are over 20 Kiwikick centres in New Zealand and in 2010 this number is expected to be well and truly exceeded as the program is implemented in partnership with regional sports trusts throughout the country. For more information take a look at [www.nz afl.co.nz](http://www.nz afl.co.nz)