8 December 2017

Dear Members,

I refer to recent communication concerning the Active Kids Rebate Program and as committed previously I wish to provide a brief update to you. Pleasingly we have made some small progress with regards to the eligibility of players registering prior to the launch date early next year.

Firstly, the NSW Office of Sport (the government department responsible for overseeing the program) has acknowledged that some Clubs may need to defer Full or Part-Payment of their registration fees to enable their members to take advantage of the Voucher Program. You may recall that we were concerned that the date of commencement is 31 January, effectively negating the opportunity for players/parents who may register prior to this date in the first few weeks of the New Year. Through facilitating a 'workaround', the Office of Sport has now advised that should they choose to, clubs can begin to take registrations via MyFootballClub (**MFC**) from the system's open date, being 3 January 2018, as long as parents are not required to make complete payment of full fees, and the player's registration is not made 'active' in the MFC system.

Parents will be able to select an Add-On item at the invoice screen of the registration which will be known as "Deferred Payment" which effectively reduces the registration invoice by $100. Payments for the remaining portion of the registration fee will be processed as normal, either offline (Manual Payment at Club) or via the MFC Online Payment Gateway. From 31 January 2018 once the voucher system is open, Clubs will follow up with those players/parents registered using the deferred payment option to remind them to access the Service NSW portal to obtain their voucher code then supply it to the Club. This can be captured via the MyFootballClub Additional Questions or any other method selected by the Club.

The validity of the codes collected after the registration has been entered into MFC will need to be checked by the Clubs via the Clubs Service NSW Portal. Each valid code that is entered automatically attributes the funds to the Club with bulk disbursements occurring at set frequencies by Service NSW into each club's nominated bank account.

This information is currently being presented and further explained to Clubs as part of the 2018 Digital Services Sessions being conducted across all Associations. In these sessions, clubs have the opportunity to ask questions as to how this program affects their club and how best they can manage their registration process and provides the opportunity to address any other concerns that they may have.

Below are some simple points highlighting the important information on the Pre-Program Launch and Post-Program Launch workflows.

Pre-Program Launch

- An "Add-On" item will be set up in the system to be selected by the players PRIOR to January 31. This will be referred to as a "Deferred Payment" with a value of -$100

- Club Sets Up Registration Packages as Normal
- Players can, at the discretion of their club, register from 3 January 2018
- Players eligible and wanting to use their discount in Football, should select the -$100 Deferred Payment Add-On to reduce their registration fee.
  This is done at the Invoice Screen by clicking on "Additional Items" and selecting the -$100 option

- Payments for registration minus the $100 can continue to be taken as normal, either online or offline.
  Clubs should not make players active until post program launch/confirmation of a valid Voucher Code from the Government
- Players apply for Voucher Code via Service NSW Website from **31 January 2018**
- Players provide their Voucher Code to their Club (can be via Additional Questions in MFC)
- Club Checks validity of voucher code and is either granted the $100 from Service NSW
  OR where the code is not valid;
- Club follows up additional $100 Payment from Parent

Post-Program Launch

- Players apply for Voucher Code via Service NSW Website
- Player Registers via MyFootballClub
- At the Invoice screen there will be messaging for parents to enter their Voucher Code
- The system will automatically check the validity of that code and where approved, the invoice will automatically update to be less $100
- Service NSW will provide the Club with $100 for each eligible code entered by players registered to their Club.
- Where the code entered by the parent is not valid, the parent will only be able to generate an invoice/make payment for the **FULL** Registration Fee.

From 15 January 2018 there will be a specific support centre in place for the Active Kids Voucher Program and this will be managed by Service NSW and/or Office of Sport. Prior to this date, Clubs are encouraged to contact Samantha Denmeade on **02 8814 4449** or at samanthad@footballnsw.com.au with any questions they may have in relation to the program.

From 3 January 2018 when MFC opens for Registrations, the FFA's Support Centre will be open and Football NSW will have additional resources to assist with the support requirements. The FFA and the FNSW Support Staff will be across the Active Kids Voucher Scheme as well as the general Registration processes to assist any members who may require further assistance.

Any questions or queries in specific relation to the eligibility of a child for the Active Kids Voucher Program will need to be directed to the Service NSW/Office of Sport Support centre. The details for this support centre will be provided as soon as they become available to us.

As previously stated and as I am sure you would understand, we do accept and acknowledge that this is unfortunately a rather convoluted process that may cause some stress and no doubt extra work. That said, this program provides the opportunity for almost 150,000 players (and their parents) to participate in our sport at a cheaper rate. With almost $15 million at stake, we seek your patience, understanding and support to sell this positive aspect of the program.

Kind regards and thanks again,

Stuart Hodge,
Chief Executive Officer