



# MORELAND ZEBRAS FOOTBALL CLUB

## PRESS RELEASE

### Mini Roos – Announcement

The footballers of the future all have to commence at a starting point. The Starting point is at the Mini Roos level. A program that is extremely important to grassroots level. We at Moreland Zebras have taken pride over the years to develop our Mini Roos (past Small Sided Football) program. This program over the last three seasons has seen us invest in coaching development and player development with our Motto, giving our players the tool of the trade so that they can experience what football has to offer.

Five seasons ago the Zebras took to the task of re-commencing the junior section within our club. This meant that the Mini Roos was to commence. In its 1<sup>st</sup> year we featured one team in the U8 competition, a U7 Hub program that had 20 players (five to six years olds) resulting in a 35 boys and girls wearing the Black and White stripes. Fast forward to the present and we have seven Mini Roo teams (Boys and Girls) and approximately 85 players with the room to expand.

This is a tremendous effort and one that needs to be recognized with the hard work and dedication from our Mini Roos department. The last three seasons has seen the Mini Roos Technical Director – Alex Cobo lead the way in implementing the national curriculum that has been set out to give footballers a very enjoyable experience, allowing them to develop all the required skills that is needed in football. It has been enjoyable to see Mini Roos players and coaches grow with in the program.

We have witnessed a development pathway for our players and coaches from Mini Roos into junior football. Many players that commenced in this program moved into the NPL U12 set up. The majority class of 2014 U11 team will progress into the U12 2015 Npl side, not to mention the many players that took part in the Skillaroos process (either making it into the final selection stage or being selected). Coaches have also been elevated into junior football with Mini Roos coach Alejandro Osorio being selected as 2015 NPL U12 coach with us at Moreland Zebras. Technical director Alex Cobo has also coached not only some of our junior teams but also coaching the future senior players of the Zebras (U20) for the last two seasons. A tremendous effort by the entire Mini Roos team that needs to be acknowledged and applauded.

Moving forward into 2015 will see a new era in football development at the Zebras while continuing the foundations set and continuing the National Curriculum blueprint with the Skill Acquisition Phase.

Moreland Zebras would like to announce for the new season that the Mini Roos Technical baton will be passed over to another Zebra coach in Fabrizio Rocchi. Outgoing Mini Roos technical Alex Cobo will focus on his duties with in the senior set up as coach of the U20's squad.



Well Done Alex and we thank you for your hard work and commitment through the last three years at Mini Roos level.

We welcome Fabrizio as Mini Roos technical director in which he brings plenty of experience.

- AFC FFA B License – AFC FFA C Youth License
- Current U13 NPL Coach Moreland Zebras
- 2014 U16 NPL Coach Moreland Zebras
- Volunteer Assistant with SAP Program FFV
- Volunteer Assistant with Skillaroos FFV
- Skill Acquisition technical director Eltham Redbacks

Mini Roos will commence in February 2015. New players welcome.

Any further information please contact Gino Favero on 0456 666 994

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