



MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY
BLACKS
FOOTBALL CLUB

THE UNIVERSITY BLACKS

A genuine
sporter.

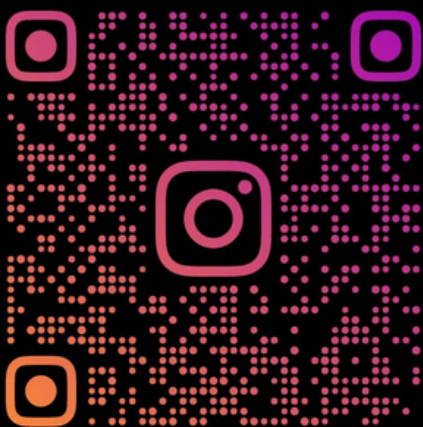
AMATEUR FOOTBALL'S MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUB





YOU'LL LOVE THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BLACKS FOOTBALL CLUB

2025 marks the launch of the revitalised University Blacks Football Club. We invite you to join a club where football is just one part of your experience. We have an outstanding coaching panel led by Dale Bower who has spent over 20 years coaching at a number of community and state level clubs including Williamstown and Box Hill Hawks FC. Our first class training and medical facilities allow our players to achieve their playing potential. The Blacks unrivalled extensive professional network nurtures the off-field talents of our players. The Blacks will again field four teams: seniors, reserves, thirds and under 19s. The 2025 season promises to be another famous year in the storied history of the most successful club in Amateur football – we would love you to be a part of it!



**Check out what you could be involved
in for 2025**



HISTORY

An historic club founded in 1859 and steeped in history, the Melbourne University Blacks has been an amazing place to play football for 150 years. Along the way there have been over 50 Club premierships (14 A-Grade seniors), numerous AFL/VFL alumni, shared joys and famous victories and countless lifelong friendships born from celebrating on field successes. To become a 'Blacker' is one of the best life decisions you'll ever make.




PREMIERS

1921*, 1922*, 1928*, 1929*, 1935*, 1938*, 1946*, 1947*, 1948*, 1949*, 1964*, 1965*, 1974*, 1997, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2014*

* A Section

CULTURE

The Blacks are renowned for playing the game with tenacity, a hard edge and with exciting flair. We are proud of our position as community leaders, our inclusiveness and our diversity. The University Blacks were the first Victorian Amateur club to host an Indigenous round and the first Amateur club in Australia to host a Pride round. The Blacks has the feel of a country football club with the added benefits of strong city connections. The unique blend of people and talent at Blacks makes it a truly special place to play football.



“The Uni Blacks has been the perfect place to balance my studies in medicine with high level football. This Club will challenge you to be the best footballer and person that you can be.”

Bede Mahon, Former Club Captain and 2017 Woodrow Medallist (Premier A Competition Best and Fairest)



SENIOR FOOTBALL

The Blacks have spent the last two years back in Premier A Section, having been promoted following a successful 2022 in Premier B. In 2024, the Blacks won 4 of their last 5 games to finish the season with 7 wins. In 2025 the Blacks will again compete in Premier A. This is a year for resilience, team building and an opportunity for the ultimate success. Senior Coach Dale Bower will again be at the helm in 2025, with a new and exciting coaching panel supporting the growth of players on and off the field.

UNDER 19 FOOTBALL

Under 19s footy at the Blacks offers our younger players a fantastic footy experience on and off the field. High quality coaching and excellent facilities are combined with a strong focus on building a supportive and engaging team dynamic. In 2025, the Under 19s will have a cracking group of coaches working as a team, providing the same level of support and leadership we have come to expect year to year with our Unders side. Harry Balaszy will lead the team as coach and has developed strong coaching experience in his formative coaching days. Paddy Byrne will be supporting the Under 19s program as the Under 19s Pathways Manager, supporting our developing players for senior football. Paddy brings a wealth of football experience to the program. Additionally, for students new to Melbourne or attending university, the Blacks provides the opportunity to meet fellow footy loving students and to rapidly feel at home in a positive and lively environment.

On field opportunities are mixed with a great social calendar, allowing our youngest players to feel welcomed and at home. The Blacks will be an exciting and vibrant place to be in 2025 and the Under 19s will be a huge part of it.

PLAYER WELFARE AND CAREER SUPPORT

Being a part of the Blacks community extends well beyond your playing days. The Blacks have an influential professional past-player and supporter group, with a network of business and social contacts to assist our current playing group achieve their career goals. We help players with employment opportunities, both casual and professional, as well as providing them with career advice from senior professionals across many fields. Player welfare and career support pathways:

- Engineering
- Medicine and Science
- Law and Humanities
- Finance and Banking
- Property and Construction
- Technology
- Sports management

The Annual University Blacks Careers Night offers our players access to industry leaders in a wide range of fields. We foster professional mentorship and provide first hand insights into how to succeed in your chosen path.


FACILITIES AND MEDICAL

The Blacks enjoy first-class facilities. The newly built Pavilion is an architectural masterpiece and the University Oval has been named one of the ten most beautiful cricket grounds in the world. It is a delight to run onto the surface. The University Blacks provide individualised strength and conditioning programs and access to the Melbourne University Gym and Pool. The Blacks offer the best medical and physio-therapy care in the VAFA. We have pioneered safe concussion management for Australian Rules Footballers through our partnership with the Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Melbourne Brain Centre.



“The Uni Blacks is special because most players come to the club not knowing anyone else and often leave having made lifelong friends, all while playing at the highest level of amateur football.”

Campbell Moorfield, Current Club Captain, Corder Medallist (Uni Blacks Best and Fairest) and Big V representative



“The University Blacks is a special place. Balancing an elite football program with an unrelenting focus on culture and the development of young men. We are closing in on our next A Grade premiership.”

Joshua Steadman, Former Club Captain, Big V representative and multiple competition team of the year honours

If this sounds like the Club for you, then we would love to hear from you.

SENIORS

Dale Bower, Senior Coach
dalebower12@gmail.com
0405 146 102

UNDER 19s

Justin Gray, Under 19s Recruitment
jrgray@bigpond.net.au
0417 158 235

Harry Balaszy, Under 19s Coach

www.uniblack.org.au



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