



## WELCOME TO OUR CLUB!

IF Gnistan is a traditional football club in Oulunkylä, Helsinki founded in 1924. The club is one of the largest clubs in Helsinki and a significant sports influencer in Northern Helsinki. In the club, adult representative team activities work under IF Gnistan Oy and junior and other activities under IF Gnistan ry. Together we are the Gnistan family!

About 1,200 registered players and their supporters and coaches are involved in the activity. The club offers versatile opportunities for playing soccer, from the youngest boys' and girls' teams to women and senior men. There is a place for players of all levels in our club, whether it's playing as a hobby or goals in competitive sports. Our player path is built from juniors all the way to our representative teams. The goal of Gnistan's competitive path is to develop individuals into elite players. We want to produce high-level players for both national and international level. In addition to actual team activities, Gnistan offers afternoon club activities for school children, adult soccer clubs and other low-threshold activities.

In recent years, we have transferred coaching almost entirely to full-time coaches hired by the club. Such a model enables a unified line of action in all teams and guarantees a good level of coaching. In addition to more than 20 paid full-time employees, our club has dozens of assistant coaches, some of whom work part-time. In addition, the club has around a hundred volunteers working in different positions in the teams.

Our operations are focused on the stadium owned by the club in the Oulunkylä sports park (Mustapekka Areena, Käsälyntie 11), where the club's office is also located. Our stadium has a covered stand for more than a thousand people, dressing room and meeting spaces, the club's own café and office.

In the 2023 season, our men's representative team will play in "Ykkönen" (second highest level) and the women's representative team will play in "Kolmonen" (fourth highest level). In juniors, our competitive teams will play in the leagues of the Finnish Football Federation as follows in the 2023 season: A-juniors will play in the A-SM qualification (highest level) and Ykkönen (second highest level), Girls B-juniors will participate with a young group in T18 Kakkonen (third highest level), P2009 Etelä liiga (highest) and Ykkönen (second highest level), P2010 Etelä liiga (highest) and Ykkönen (second highest level), T2010 Ykkönen (highest level), P2011 Ykkönen (second highest level), qualifying and T2011 Ykkönen (highest level). Our other teams play in the Finnish Football Association leagues from Kakkonen to Kutonen (third highest to seventh levels).

## COACHES

Each team is assigned a head coach. The coach's task is to plan and guide the team's activities and exercises, as well as invite the players for games. In addition to the head coach, the teams have assistant coaches. Most of the coaches receive either all or part of their salary for coaching.

[VALMENNUS – IF Gnistan](#)

## THE TEAM AND ITS OFFICIALS

**The team leader, i.e. "Jojo"** is the person who manages all the team's other matters except sport & game matters. You can primarily ask Jojo about matters related to your team's activities. The **team treasurer "rahastonhoitaja"** is responsible for your team's internal invoices and financial matters. The team may also have other officials, such as game managers, custodians, equipment managers, etc. The officials form the team's management team, which has the team's trust and decision-making power. Team officials are elected at the parents' meeting. When you start in our club, it is important to read the team's rules and other instructions in the team's MyClub Bulletin.



## FIELD

The Gnistan community's own "home" is at Oulunkylä's Mustapekka Arena. The stadium with a capacity of 1,200 people is the only football stadium in Finland owned by the club. The majority of team and other group practices are held at the stadium, as well as women's and men's home games, as well as some of the Juniors' home games.

## MYCLUB

Information in our club takes place through the MyClub member service. After the player registers with the club, he/she is added to MyClub and a MyClub account activation link is sent to him. In MyClub, you can see team events, team and club messages, and invoices. Through MyClub, the player, for example, registers as present/absent at the team's practices and games. Through MyClub the club's membership register is also maintained.

After registering for MyClub, it is especially important to 1) make the player's name visible to the club in the privacy settings and 2) mark the sibling discount yes/no according to the instructions and 3) mark the child's photography permission yes/no. **NOTE! The official team picture is always added to the club's homepage and is available for the team to use in their social media. If the child's picture is not allowed to be seen in public, he/she cannot participate in the official photo.**

## DUES

By becoming a member of the club, a person commits to the club and undertakes to take care of his payments on time.

**The club's membership fee** includes administration and league fees (football), the MyClub member management system, Club events, meeting rooms for team meetings, the ASIO pitch reservation system, volunteer training fees and the end of season party. The size of the membership fee is decided annually by the board of the club, and the fee is charged once a year. Siblings playing in the same club are charged a membership fee with a sibling discount.

**The team's operating fee** (monthly fee) includes coaching and pitch fees, as well as possibly tournaments, entertainment or other team fees if decided by the team's management team. The team's management team prepares an annual budget and invoices are sent to the player according to it on a monthly basis.

**The club's conditions fee:** The conditions fee is invoiced in the years when training conditions are developed and maintained. Contingency fees are announced well in advance of being charged.

**PLAYER QUITTING IN CLUB:** If the player transfers to another club in the middle of the season, he is obliged to pay the operating fees for the following three months. The player is entitled to participate in the activity as long as he pays fees. At the turn of the season, during October and November, there will be no additional payment obligation for players who move elsewhere.

**INJURIES:** The team's rules tell about possible payment reductions during an injury or a longer break. The team leader can tell you more about it.

**FINANCES:** The club's finances are based on membership and activity fees collected from members. In addition, support for the activity is also sought from the city and other parties.

## GAME LICENSE AND INSURANCE

Every player must have sports insurance covering competitive sports. If the player does not have such insurance from his own back, the club will get it for him. In addition, before the first series match, the player must have a game license. The club acquires a game license for the player after starting in the team. By paying for the game license, the player gets the right to play.



**PLAYER TRANSFER TO OUR CLUB:** If the player transfers to our club from another club, we will start the player transfer to the old club. The transfer fee is charged to the family (€15 for those under 12, €30 for those over 12–18). In international transfers (over 12 year olds) we start the FIFA transfer proceeding with the Finnish Football association.

**PLAYER MOVES FROM OUR CLUB:** If the player moves to another club and we receive a transfer request from the new club, we are obliged to accept the transfer if there are no obstacles to it, e.g. payment arrears. Our club does not accept transfers to other clubs until all payments are up to date.

**ETHICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAYER TRANSFERS:** Gnistan follows the Finnish Football Association's ethical recommendations for player transfers. We want to encourage all players to act responsibly and respectfully to other clubs involved in the sport in matters related to player transfers and other activities. Gnistan is a united and vibrant club, whose different policies are largely based on their own player education. The work requires consistency and persistence. Basically, all transfers must take into account the player's best interest. Direct contact by coaches of Gnistan's own teams or team officials to a player of another club / his family OR contact by other clubs directly to a player playing in Gnistan / his family without the knowledge and permission of the coaching management of the clubs is prohibited. In such cases, Gnistan always reports to the Finnish Football Association.

## PRACTISES

Each team has its own practice shifts, which are announced in MyClub. In team sports, commitment to activities is particularly important, and the goal is for everyone to participate in the team's training. Absence must always be reported to the coach/MyClub.

For the exercises, you need weather-appropriate equipment. We practice outside throughout the year, if the practices are specified for the outdoor field. Only in severe frost (freezing level -13 degrees) or heavy snowfall may the practises be canceled or changed to another activity. The team leader informs families about canceled practices.

Once you've joined the club, it's important to get the club's uniform and, if possible, the club's equipment for team consistency. You can ask the team leader about choosing a game number.

## CLUB OUTFIT

Each player pays for his own game outfit and other equipment. The game outfit includes a yellow and blue jersey and blue shorts. We recommend the purchase of other team equipment (e.g. tracksuit jacket and tracksuit bottoms) because of the unity of the team. You can order or buy our equipment at Intersport Tammisto after you have chosen a game number, which you can ask the team manager about. The clothing collection is from Puma. [IF Gnistan | Intersport seurakauppa](#)

## TEAM RULES

The team follow the team rules approved by the parents' meeting. The rules of the team follow the rules of the club. The goal of the rules is to give everyone the opportunity to develop as a player to their peak at their own pace, have fun, make new friends, create a safe and encouraging atmosphere, experience community, learn healthy lifestyles and find the spark for a physical life.

[CLUB RULES FOR TEAM MEMBERS AND PLAYERS 2023.pdf](#)

**THE ROLE OF THE PARENT:** The role of the parent as the background force behind the child's and young person's sports is particularly important. The most important task of a parent is to encourage and support the players and the team.

When the common operating methods and the team's game rules have been agreed at the parents' evening, it is important that the coaches have peace to work. The parents' task is to focus on cheering on the team.



It is also good to remember that your own child is part of the team, and because of this, he will not receive special treatment in any situation.

**TIPS:**

- *Encourage, don't find fault. Encouragement gives the child self-confidence!*
- *Support players in both good and bad times.*
- *Let the coach and referee do their job in peace.*
- *Respect others; players, coaches, referees/referees, parents, volunteers and sports venues and facilities*
- *Understand that you represent not only the team but also the club and the sport.*
- *Remember that the hobby is mainly the child's own business.*
- *Encourage the child to practice independently!*
- *Remind the child that playing should be fun!*
- *Enjoy joint sporting events!*

## **OUR VALUES**

Community spirit, Responsibility, Development, Equality

[Arvot – IF Gnistan](#)

## **IF GNISTAN METODI**

The club's work is guided by the principles and operating methods

[Gnistan metodi – IF Gnistan](#)

## **A SAFE HOBBY ENVIRONMENT**

IF Gnistan ry offers the child a drug-free, violence-free, and safe environment. We want to prevent all kinds of harassment, violence, discrimination, and exploitation of children in our operations. The plan to ensure a safe hobby environment for minor children includes action models for the prevention, intervention and investigation of inappropriate behavior.

[TURVALLINEN HARRASTUSYMPÄRISTÖ – IF Gnistan](#)

## **IF GNISTAN SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES**

Let's represent our team, club and sport honorably also on social media!

[IF GNISTAN SOSIAALISEN MEDIAN OHJEET - IF GNISTAN SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES.pdf](#)

*Our goal is to develop fast-paced, brave and dominant players.*

**Homepage:** [www.gnistan.fi](http://www.gnistan.fi)

Contact information: [Yhteystiedot – IF Gnistan](#)