



## OC Giants Player Exchange Program

The Orange County Giants Australian Rules Football Club are now accepting applications from experienced and talented Australian players aged 21 and older to join the club for the 2019 USAFL season (May-October).

Orange County is located half way between Los Angeles and San Diego. OC has a stunning coastline with beautiful beaches and world class surf, with short drives to vacation destinations in the mountains and the desert. Southern California enjoys year-round warm and temperate weather, particularly during the months of the football season. For much more information, please visit: <https://www.visittheoc.com/>

The program will provide up to three Australian players with an opportunity to play football in the US and enjoy the experience of living in one of the world's most desirable locations. Successful applicants will assist the OC Giants through playing and training with the club and will share their football knowledge with existing and developing players and coaches to further improve the club's on field performance.

Successful applicants will be provided with:

- Airfare assistance from Australia to the US
- Accommodation compensation
- USAFL Player registration costs
- Return airfare to Regional tournament in Salem, Oregon and National tournament in Sarasota, Florida
- Shared transportation vehicle with other exchange players

While the preference is for players who can commit to a minimum six months and can obtain a B2 tourism visa, consideration will also be given to players who would like to commit to three-months via the visa-waiver program, with entry date to the US no later than July 21st. Prospective players must show means to support themselves for the period of their exchange.

All applicants need to be available for a minimum of three months and are required to attend all training sessions and play all games (scheduled every two weeks). Consideration will be given to travel opportunities, provided this does not impact any games played. Applicants unavailable for USAFL Western Regional Championships in Salem, Oregon on July 27<sup>th</sup> and the National Championships held in Sarasota, FL on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> will not be considered.

The USAFL Nationals is the pinnacle of our season. It comprises of teams from across the country competing in different divisions. The tournament is played over two days in a 2x20 minute half format, with divisional seedings determined by a club's performance



throughout the year. Nationals is the biggest Australian Rules tournament in the world, with over a thousand players from clubs throughout the US and Canada converging for that one weekend in October. It is always an amazing weekend to be a part of and a great experience in its own right.

Some club history...

The OC Giants are one of the oldest clubs in the USAFL having formed in 1998 as the OC Bombers. After winning a Division 2 National Championship in 2002 the club competed for the next 13 years in Division 1, with runners-up finishes in 2014 and 2015. In 2017, the club went through many on-field changes and decided to compete in Division 2, finishing runners-up that year. This year the Giants will again compete in Division 2, with the ultimate goal to take home a Nationals Division 2 premiership for the second time in our history.

The Giants have a talented list made up of a solid base of American players and locally based Australians, and the addition of some quality key players will provide the Giants an opportunity to develop our existing playing group and compete with the elite teams around the country. The club upholds an exciting and energetic on and off-field culture, with various social events and experiences throughout the season. Beginning 2019, the Giants have established a close partnership with the AFL GWS Giants, with player visits planned throughout the season, including 2019 Nationals.

Interested applicants please supply references, football achievements and a bit about yourself and why you think you would be a good fit for the OC Giants in 2019.

Email – [orangecountygiants@gmail.com](mailto:orangecountygiants@gmail.com)

Club Website – [ocgiants.com](http://ocgiants.com)

USAFL Website – [usafl.com](http://usafl.com)