

[www.autisticfootball.club](http://www.autisticfootball.club)

# Romulea Autistic Football Club

**AN INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL TEAM**



Pietro Cirrincione, vice-president of





**RAFC / AN INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL TEAM**



# Autism is difficult to categorize



Paralympic Games: football is for blind players or cerebral palsy.



Special Olympics: it requires intellectual disability (ID), but only one half of people on the autism spectrum has ID.



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Even players on the autism spectrum and without intellectual disabilities face difficulties for inclusion in sport.



There are special federations of integrated football teams, but with modified FIFA rules that are not fully inclusive.







Romulea Autistic Football Club is an inclusive football team with mixed players:

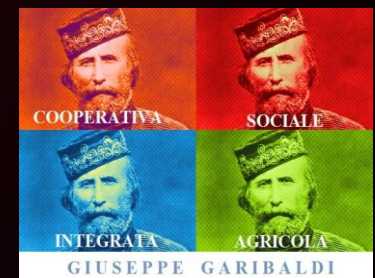
- Players on the autism spectrum
  - others players: voluntary educators, parents and friends
- 
- Inclusive way:
  - mixed players
  - strictly FIFA rules





We founded our team in 2015 World Autism Awareness Day tournament by the support of:

- Gruppo Asperger Lazio (a volunteer organization of families and people on the autism spectrum)
- Giuliaparla (cooperative of services)
- Garibaldi (a cooperative of workers on the autism spectrum)





Football is popular, promotes social skills, psychophysical well-being, responsibility, inclusion, self-determination, self-advocacy, autonomy.

In 2017 we played in FC8:  
Eight-a-side Football  
Championship, no other teams  
with disabilities.

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Motor skills assessment by qualified personnel.

Scientific monitoring in cooperation with Sapienza University in Rome to measure the level of inclusion in the social group regardless of the social skills, with sharing of objectives as a condition favouring inclusion.

SHARING SPACES	SHARING ACTIVITIES	SHARING OBJECTIVES	SOCIAL SHARING	EMOTIONAL SHARING
a) he/she tolerates other known people to be in the same space	a) he/she is able to follow a routine of reinforcing and/or pleasant activities	a) he/she follows the rules	a) he/she makes requests for help to complete a task	a) he/she shows any reaction to situations that trigger emotional content
b) he/she tolerates people in a distance of one meter	b) he/she is able to follow a functional routine	b) he/she completes a targeted activity in absolute autonomy	b) he/she asks for attention to the reference persons	b) he/she shows appropriate reactions to situations that trigger emotional content
c) he/she tolerates physical contact	c) he/she is able to perform small activities within a consolidated routine	c) he/she performs targeted activities in coordination with peers	c) he/she asks for attention in group	c) he/she expresses adequately his/her emotional contents and personal experiences
d) he/she tolerates the presence of strangers	d) Transition among different activities	d) he/she shows satisfaction in concluding useful activities	d) he/she shares his/her interests	d) he/she tends to involve others in group situations
e) he/she tolerates to stay in unknown public places	e) he/she tolerates changes to consolidated routines	e) he/she praises others	e) he/she shows interest in others' conversations	e) he/she has welcomed emotional experiences expressed by peers
f) he/she tolerates to stay in places (or together people) that create specific difficulties	f) he/she performs tasks upon instructions	f) he/she creates new strategies for making the group pursue the objectives	f) he/she starts conversations of mutual interest	f) he/she establishes reciprocal emotional interactions
<div><div>0 never</div><div>1 sometimes</div><div>2 half the time</div><div>3 often</div><div>4 always</div></div>				



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Weekly trainings at SS Romulea, an accredited football centre.  
Monthly friendly matches, competitive tournaments, recreational activities, members meetings.

- The project also involves:
- professional football players and coaches
- events communication team





The project applies UN CRPD article 30 for participation in recreation, leisure and sport.

In 2016 we were recognized as sport club by the National Olympic Committee.



Since 2018 we are an official team of Romulea: now we are fully included in the football world!



## RAFC / AN INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL TEAM



Romulea was founded in 1921. It's among the most successful clubs in Italy, with over 150 players entering professional football.

It trains young people both in the socio-cultural and technical aspects, developing their personality.



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We want to launch other autistic teams and the Autistic Football Kids.

Our objective is to compete to an official mainstream championship of the Italian Football Federation.

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