Codes of Acceptable Conduct

PLAYERS

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, and deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent, are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit, and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether your team or the opposition makes them.
- Treat all participants in your sport, as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents and referees. Without them there would be no competition.
- Play for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours. Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to respect the decisions of officials.
- Encourage respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches or officials.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good efforts from each team. Congratulate good performances and skilful plays by all participants regardless of the game's outcome.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

ADMINISTRATORS & OFFICIALS

- Give all players equal opportunities to participate. Compliment and encourage all players.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player but also as a coach, referee, or administrator.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players. Provide quality supervision and instruction for players. Remember that young people participate for their enjoyment and benefit. Do not overemphasise awards.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating. Emphasise fair play, and not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behaviour sheet to officials, parents, coaches, players, and encourage them to follow it.
- Think before you speak. Your behaviour and comments reflect on your Club and should be positive and supportive. Be consistent and objective when making decisions. Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents. Be a good sport yourself – actions speak louder than words.
- Make it clear that abusing young people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.