

**SOUTHERN BRANCH
FOOTBALL
CODE OF CONDUCT**



**FOOTBALL
NSW
SOUTHERN
BRANCH**

PLAYERS and PARENTS

CODE OF CONDUCT: PLAYER

Playing for enjoyment as a member of a team is the most fundamental part of the game. Whilst winning is the objective, it is not to be achieved at any cost. Fair play and respect for all others in the game is essential. This Code focuses on players involved in team football. Nevertheless, the key concepts in the Code are valid for players at all levels.

1. Play football to enjoy yourself, and accept that striving to win is more important than winning itself. Victory and defeat are inevitable, and should be accepted equally.
2. Understand and abide by the laws, rules and spirit of the game in any competition in which you participate.
3. Players will exhibit good sportsmanship at all times, never condone violations of the laws of the game or exhibit behaviour contrary to the spirit of the laws of the game.
4. Consistently display high standards of behaviour.
5. Respect the wishes and directions of your coach.
6. Respect the referees' decisions at all times.
7. Treat opponents with due respect at all times, and avoid words or actions that may mislead a match official.
8. No offensive, abusive or insulting remarks shall be made toward any other player, official or parent.
9. Display a good attitude at training and on match days.
10. Players will turn up for matches in advance of kick-off and training as directed by the team manager.
11. No jewellery is to be worn by players during matches or training.
12. Players will always wear the correct kit.
13. Club kit is only to be worn for matches.
14. Football boots must in a good and safe condition.
15. Players must wear shin pads during matches and training.
16. Players must not eat or chew during matches or training.
17. Inform the coach when you have an injury.
18. Ensure that all requisite forms are filled in correctly.
19. Pay registrations on time.
20. Encourage your teammates – you cannot win a game on your own.

Failing to adhere to the code of conduct could lead to:

1. Player stood down from training.
2. If behaviour continues player stood down from training and games.
3. Player is stood down for a game but has to attend training.
4. Both player and parent are asked to leave the club, and de-registered following full payment of fees.

Player Name: _____

Player Signature: _____

Date: _____

CODE of CONDUCT: PARENTS

First and foremost, ensure that football participation for your child and others is a positive experience. Young people participate in football for their pleasure and enjoyment, not yours. Remember a child is easily affected by outside influences. A parent/caregivers expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards other players, coaches, officials, managers and other parents.

Therefore:

1. Encourage players to always play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility, verbal abuse or violence. These types of behaviour will **NOT** be tolerated at Southern Branch. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from football, both on and off the field.
2. Show control, respect and appreciation to all involved with football. This includes players, opponents, coaches, officials, managers, other parents and spectators. Encourage players to do the same. Remember without these **volunteers**, your child would not be able to participate in football.
3. Respect the coach – interact, with courtesy, through the team manager. Please leave coaching to the coach, regardless of whether you agree or disagree.
4. Encourage your child to speak with the coach. If your child is having difficulties in training or games, or can't attend training etc. encourage them to speak directly to the coach/manager. This "responsibility taking" is a big part of becoming a mature person. By handling off the field tasks your child is claiming ownership of all aspects of the game.
5. Respect the Referee and Officials and teach players to do likewise. These persons are there to make the game fair and more enjoyable. They are human and make mistakes. You must understand this and explain it to your child. Your attitude and behaviour toward these persons will affect the player's attitude and behaviour also.
6. Applaud good play by your team and members of opposing teams.
7. Accept the results of each game and encourage your child to be gracious in both victory and defeat. However, you can turn defeat into victory by being solution focused and working on improving their performance.
8. Parents must not criticise their child or other children. Allow the coaches to do their work, if you add your suggestions it may cause confusion and erode player confidence.

9. Ensure your child arrives on time for training and matches wearing correct uniform.
10. Respect the club and the facilities, including those at opponent's grounds.
11. Develop and teach responsibilities to your child. Give them the responsibility to pack their football bags, clean their own boots and bring their water bottles.
12. When watching matches or training sessions please stand behind the official lines, and barriers. Please **DO NOT** stand behind the goals.
13. Inform the manager of any medical condition your child has and please supply a doctor's certificate if a player has sustained an injury as they require official clearance to play subsequent games.
14. Support the team manager by turning up to all your allocated game duties. Please arrange a swap of duties if unable to meet rostered commitment e.g. Canteen duty.
15. Pay registrations on time and ensure all requisite forms are filled out correctly.

Failing to adhere to the code of conduct could lead to:

1. A verbal/written warning being issued.
2. Not being permitted to attend your child's training session.
3. If behaviour continues, not being permitted to attend your child's training and matches.
4. Player of parent stood down for a game, but they must still attend training.
5. Both player and parent will be asked to leave the club, and the player will be deregistered.

Please note: Time of exclusion will be determined by the Southern Branch Standing Committee in consultation with the Team Manager and SAP/Youth/Women's Convenors.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____