

FERNTREE GULLY FOOTBALL CLUB

CODE OF CONDUCT

MARCH 2013



MANDATORY & ENFORCEABLE CODES OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES, PLAYERS, FAMILY, SUPPORTERS, VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS

THE EASTERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE (EFL):

The matter of behavior amongst players, officials and spectators is the subject of ever increasing levels of scrutiny. We share a view with other governing bodies that everyone has the right to participate in sport at a community level which is safe, welcoming and inclusive and everyone has a role to play in ensuring their actions and behaviors are supportive of these values.

The Eastern Football League and EFL clubs have a responsibility to ensure participation is free of anti-social behaviour both on and off the field which prevents or discourages others from taking part and being active.

The EFL By laws provide Codes of Conduct that outline behaviours which are expected to be followed and identify the behaviours which must not be tolerated.

We can all take some responsibility for adherence to the Codes of Conduct. In doing so, we will make a positive impact on the enjoyment that we experience through our involvement in EFL football.

Adherence to the Codes detailed below will go a long way to ensuring that EFL football remains safe and inclusive for all. Please ensure the members of your club are aware of the requirements of the EFL Codes of Conduct

THE FERNTREE GULLY FOOTBALL CLUB:

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

THE AFL CODE OF CONDUCT REQUIRES COACHES TO:

As part of the Level 1 Accreditation requirement, all coaches must be accredited to coach in our league. The key points in the Coaches code of conduct include:

- Keep informed with regard to sound principals of coaching and skill development, and to factors relating to the welfare of your players.
- At all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practise fair play.
- Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.

- Ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development as priorities are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
- Reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL DRUG POLICY.
- Maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the game and the players/staff in their care.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of your involvement in football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
- Abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the game and the rules of your club and league/association.
- Be reasonable in the demands you make on the time commitments of the players in your care, having due consideration for their health and well-being.
- Refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in your care.
- Have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of your players when designing practice activities and involvement in competition.
- Stress and monitor safety always.

EFL REQUIRES COACHES TO:

- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Avoid over-playing the talented players, the "just average" players need and deserve equal time.
- Remember that players participate for fun and enjoyment.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
- Take into consideration the maturity level of the players, when scheduling and determining the length of practice times and competition.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Create opportunities to teach appropriate sports behavior as well basic skills.
- Ensure that skill learning and appropriate sports behavior have priority over highly structured competitions for young players.
- Help players understand the responsibilities and implications of their freedom to choose between fair and unfair play.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

THE EFL REQUIRES PLAYERS TO:

- Play by the rules – the rules of the Club and the laws of the game.
- Never argue with an umpire or official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or sledging other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or for your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they be by your team, opponent or the other team.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.

- Co-operate with your coach, the umpires, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Play for the your own enjoyment and to improve your skills.
- Avoid using derogatory language; or remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability . youd let down your coach, team mates and family if you do . and many such comments are actually illegal.
- Be a team player . its a game, treat it that way.

Note: Codes of Conduct are part of the National Football Policy provided by the Australian Football League.

ADMINISTRATORS / OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, physicians and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of players.

FAMILY, MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS & OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Remember that you are there for the participants to enjoy the game
- Remember that players play sport for enjoyment
- Encourage players to always participate according to the rules and the officials decisions
- Encourage participation
- Remember to applaud the efforts of all players in both teams
- Remember that players learn best from example. Applaud good plays by all teams.
- Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning
- Never ridicule or yell at a player for making mistakes or losses . supporters are there to support not downgrade
- Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires and spectators . physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated
- Recognise the value of all volunteers who are giving up their valuable time
- Never publicly criticise umpires . raise personal concerns with club officials in private
- If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public.
- Respect umpires decisions
- Don't use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability . youd let down your family and yourself if you do . & many such comments are actually now illegal
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials.

By registering with the *Ferntree Gully Football Club* you agree to abide by these principles. You also support the Club in its undertakings and encourage the Club to take any necessary disciplinary actions including the suspension and banning where warranted of

any players, parents and or spectators for repeated or serious breaches of these Codes of Conduct.

Policy Commencement:

This Policy was accepted and passed with no objections by the *Ferntree Gully Football Club* General Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2013, and will take immediate effect.

The Policy will be monitored annually by the Club's General Committee.

The Code of Conduct and any disciplinary action arising is also outlined in the Club Constitution and By-Laws.



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NAME: o o o o o o o o o o o o ..o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o
(print name)

PLAYER/ROLE/POSITION:o o o o o o o o o o o o ..o o o o o o o o o o o .

SIGNATURE:o o o o o o o o o o o o ..o o o o o o o o o o o o .

DATE: ____ / ____ / 20 ____

**Ferntree Gully Football Club
Executive and General Committee
March 2013**