

# FAIR PLAY CODE OF CONDUCT

## Fair play for Players

- Always play by the rules
- Never argue with an official or their decision whatever the circumstances.
- Work hard to achieve the team and your personal goals.
- Practice makes perfect – your team trainings are the best way to improve your play and that of your team as a unit. Make sure you attend all training's where possible.
- Remember to thank your coach, the official and the opposition. Always be a good sport and applaud good play.
- Do not put people down or bully them. The aim of the game is for everyone is to have fun, participate and improve their skills. Treat all players, as you yourself would like to be treated.

## Fair play for Coaches

- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed on sound coaching principles through Provincial or National Coaching Courses.
- Set personal behaviour standards for those you coach and for yourself to follow. Teach your players that rules of the game on the field and standards off the field are mutual agreements which are not to be broken under any circumstances.
- Ensure that in the long term all players participate. There is nothing wrong in playing your strongest team in a final but you should consult the draw or player rotation so all players do get court time during the season.
- Be reasonable in your expectations of your player's time, energy and enthusiasm. Players will turn off quickly if they feel any of their reasons for playing are being compromised. They have other interests.
- The job description of a coach encompasses many roles. The overall role is that players need a coach they can respect and one who sets a good example at all times. Address your team in a positive way, avoiding abusive language.
- Develop a team respect for the ability of opponents, referees and the advice of medical professionals should a player be injured or ill.
- Ensure all equipment and facilities meet safety standards and that you use drills and training methods that are both safe and effective for your player's needs.
- Never forget that players participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only one component of why they participate.
- Do not neglect planning and preparation for practices and games. Length and content of practices should take into account the maturity level of players.

## Fair play for Parents

- Insist that your child plays within the rules and the principles of fairplay.
- Players are involved in their chosen sport for their own interests and enjoyment. You play a major part in their efforts but ensure that you respect that they are involved for their own personal reasons and not as a spectacle for your enjoyment.
- Turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill development and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule, degrade or yell at any player for making a mistake.
- Children learn the most from the examples you set. Always act in a positive manner and demonstrate self-discipline on the sideline.
- Always remember coaches are volunteers. Their time and efforts are for the benefit of your child.
- Always support officials and coaches by accepting their decisions and judgements. Remember – No official, no coach – no game.
- It is of vital importance that you play your part in removing verbal and physical abuse from your child's sporting environment.
- Above all, act as a positive role model for your child and team. Always support the coach.

## Fair play for Spectators and Supporters

- Respect that people are involved in sport for fun and enjoyment.
- Never use profane or abusive language or harass players, coaches and officials. Anyone deemed to be abusive will be asked by officials to leave the ground immediately.
- Applaud good play and support good performances from all competitors.
- Show respect for your teams opponents and the decisions of match officials and coaches. There would be no game without them.
- Condemn the use of violence and unsportsmanlike play in any form.
- Display self-control and an even temperament on the sideline. Learning the rules of the game will allow you to appreciate the game more from the sideline.
- Show your appreciation of volunteers and those who help make sport happen. It is easy to criticise but not so easy to take up the challenge yourself.
- Never ridicule any player for making a mistake. Encourage them to learn from the mistake.

