

Code of Conduct for Coaches

Coaches are key to establishing ethics in football. Their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to be committed to the principle of playing to win consistent with fair play.

Due to our coaches being involved in coaching young people, the health, safety, welfare and moral education of those young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, coach or parent.

Coaches must

- Set a positive example for the young people they are responsible for
- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the Laws and spirit of the Game
- Display and promote high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Explain exactly what they expect of players and what they can expect from them
- Ensure the parents/carers of all players under the age of 18 understand these expectations
- Refrain from, and refuse to tolerate any form of bullying
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities they organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, experience, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests