



## FLINDERS UNITED WOMEN'S FOOTBALL CLUB

### CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

The purpose of the Code of Conduct Policy is to ensure that all players, members, spectators, officials and volunteers have a very clear understanding of the behaviour that is expected from everyone and to make it clearly understood that breaches of these codes will result in disciplinary action.

Everyone has a role to play in ensuring that Football is free from bullying, verbal, and physical abuse and that it is played in a fair and safe environment.

All participants of our game have a responsibility to promote respect and good behaviour. Therefore, it is essential that YOU play your part and always follow the Code of Conduct, no matter the role that you have.

#### **SENIOR PLAYERS must:**

1. Play by the Laws of the Game.
2. Abide by the Constitution (Rules and Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the FFA and Football SA.
3. Fulfil your playing obligations with your club.
4. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all players and club officials at all times.
5. Accept the decision of the Referee and act respectfully towards all Referees and Linespersons.
6. Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions.
7. Refrain from any form of verbal or physical abuse towards anyone.
8. Not engage in any form of harassment, bullying or discrimination towards anyone.
9. Promote the best interests of Football and always consider how your actions may affect the image of the game.
10. Be a good ambassador for the game.
11. Raise any concerns through the appropriate channels and at an appropriate time.
12. Make no **detrimental statements in public** (verbally, internet social media, print, radio) in respect to any Club, Player, Referee, Football SA, FFA or Football in general.

#### **JUNIOR PLAYERS must:**

1. Respect all participants at all times.
2. Respect and follow the directions of your Team Officials.
3. Accept and follow the decisions of the Referees and Linespersons.
4. Play to the best of your ability with an emphasis on skill development and enjoyment.
5. Never verbally abuse or use physical violence at games.
6. Support your players, they are all trying their best.
7. Be respectful whether you win or lose. Acknowledge the other team and Referee at the end of the game.
8. Speak to someone you trust if you feel unsafe or uncomfortable at your club.

#### **PARENTS/CARERS must:**

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants at all times.
2. Never ridicule, criticise or unduly reprimand a player for making a mistake. They do not play intending to make mistakes.
3. Encourage your child to participate for their own interest and enjoyment.
4. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
5. Focus on encouraging your child to develop their skills, playing, and enjoying the game and doing their best. Take the emphasis away from winning.
6. Set an example by always role modelling respectful and positive behaviour. Applaud good play by all players and teams.
7. Accept decisions made by the Referees and Linespersons. They are trying to do their best.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical altercations at games.
9. Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials, and administrators.
10. Raise any concerns through the appropriate channels and at an appropriate time.
11. Follow the 'Play by the Rules' guidelines at [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au)

#### **SPECTATORS must:**

1. Respect the decisions of Match Officials.

2. Refrain from ridiculing, harassing or bullying behaviour;
3. Refrain from ridiculing or reprimanding a junior player for making a mistake.
4. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin.
5. Refrain from using violence in any form against any person, whether they be spectators, team officials, coaches, match officials, players, or spectators.
6. Refrain from engaging in discrimination, harassment, or abuse in any form, including but not limited to the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence, or participation in indecent or racist chanting.
7. Comply with all terms of entry into a venue, including bag inspections, bans on the possession of prohibited and restricted items such as drugs, alcohol, flares, missiles, dangerous articles, and items with a potential to cause injury or public nuisance.
8. Refrain from any attempt to bring into a venue offensive or inappropriate banners, whether written in English or any other language.
9. Refrain from throwing missiles, including on to the field of play or at spectators.
10. Remain off the field of play or its surrounds unless you have lawful authority to enter.
11. Conduct yourself in a manner that enhances the reputation and goodwill of the club, association, the Football SA and Football generally.

**TEAM AND CLUB OFFICIALS must:**

1. Abide by the Constitution (Rules & Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the FFA and Football SA.
2. Ensure that the qualifications needed to carry out your role are acquired and current.
3. Fulfil all required club and Football SA duties.
4. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all players and club officials at all times.
5. Accept the decisions of referees and act respectfully towards all match officials at all times.
6. Ensure that the players are involved in a positive environment.
7. Respect all players' individuality and help them reach their own full potential.
8. Be fair, considerate and honest with all players.
9. Be professional and accept responsibility for my actions; and encourage players to demonstrate the same qualities.
10. Ensure that all players are made aware of their responsibilities under the Football SA Code of Conduct and take all reasonable steps to ensure that players adhere to it.
11. Refrain from any form of personal abuse towards any person.
12. Be aware of any forms of abuse directed towards the clubs' players, whatever the sources, whilst they are in your care and act accordingly.
13. Refrain from any form of harassment towards any person.
14. Avoid any physical contact with the players. Should contact be required, you will ensure that it is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
15. Follow the "Play by the Rules" guidelines at [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au)
16. Provide a safe environment for training and competition by ensuring that equipment and facilities meet safety standards.
17. Make **no detrimental statements in public** (verbally, internet social media, print, radio) in respect of the performance of any match officials, or any policy decisions of the Club, association, the Football SA or FFA.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS must:**

1. Be diligent in their role,
2. Attend Committee meetings or forward their apology prior to the meeting,
3. Treat all people associated with the Club, including members, volunteers, partners, external stakeholders, and other Committee Members with respect,
4. Always consider the welfare of the Club's members above on field success,
5. Attend to their fiduciary responsibility and make decisions based on what is best for the Club, not for individual interest or gain,
6. Not take advantage of their position on the Committee in any way,
7. Declare any Conflicts of Interest as they arrive and act to ensure that these conflicts do not pose a risk to the organization,
8. Participate actively in our roles and responsibilities,
9. Be open to feedback from members and respond appropriately,
10. Be honest at all times,
11. Act as a positive role model with respect to good sporting behaviour on and off the field,
12. Refrain from smoking and excessive use of alcohol at the Club,
13. Adhere to the policies and procedures established by the Club,
14. Adhere to the legislative requirements of the Club,
15. Respect the equipment and resources of the Club and only use these in Club related business,
16. Not receive gifts that result in personal financial benefit,
17. Always look for opportunities for improved performance of the Club operations and Committee functions,

18. Always represent the Club in a professional manner,
19. Not speak to the media about any aspect of the Club that could damage the Club or its reputation.

#### **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Everyone must follow this Code of Conduct. If you fail to follow the Code of Conduct, you may be;

1. Required to apologise to the person or persons that have been offended.
2. Spoken to by the coach or club.
3. Requested to refrain from such behaviour.
4. Requested to leave the venue.
5. Removed from the venue.
6. Required to attend a meeting with club officials.
7. Counselling by my club.
8. Given a formal warning by your club.
9. Suspended from training and/or games.
10. Fined by my club (only applies to professional players).
11. Suspended from all club activities including attending future games.
12. Asked to leave the club.
13. Required to face disciplinary action by the Club, local association, and/or the Football SA. This may include having sanctions imposed on you by Football SA in accordance with the competition rules and regulations and FFA Disciplinary Regulations.
14. Faced with legal action.

CODE OF CONDUCT HISTORY	
Date approved	
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