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## CODE OF CONDUCT

Rev 15.04.2008

### INTRODUCTION

The major objective of Junior Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The following Codes of Conduct if followed by all people involved in our junior game should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective. The WAFCDC strongly advises that all persons involved be issued with copies of the appropriate code of conduct.

The code has been broken into four categories:

1. Administrators' Code
2. Coaches Code
3. Parents' and Spectators' Code
4. Players' Code

### ADMINISTRATORS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4 Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, sex, age, disability or ethnic origin.
- 4 Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
- 4 Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
- 4 Remember that children participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.
- 4 Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
- 4 Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
- 4 Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
- 4 Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- 4 Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
- 4 Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
- 4 Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
- 4 Ensure promotion, well-being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
- 4 Ensure positive player/umpire/relationships are continually developed.



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COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

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



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PARENTS' / SPECTATORS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4 Encourage children to participate, if they are interested.
- 4 Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
- 4 Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- 4 Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by all teams.
- 4 If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public.
- 4 Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- 4 Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches.
- 4 Remember that children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
- 4 Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- 4 Encourage players to follow the rules and the umpire's decisions.
- 4 Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or umpires.



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PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4 Play by the rules.
- 4 Never argue with an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach or teacher after the game.
- 4 Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
- 4 Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- 4 Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they be by your team, opponent or the other team.
- 4 Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- 4 Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would no competition.
- 4 Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
- 4 Avoid using derogatory language.
- 4 Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.