



# **Geelong Soccer Club**

## **Code of Behaviour**

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## 1.1 Players Code of Behaviour

- a) Play by the Rules and within the spirit of the game;
- b) Do not argue with the match official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the match official during a break in play or after the match is concluded;
- c) Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport;
- d) Maintain your focus and work hard for yourself and your team;
- e) Be a good sport and be prepared to acknowledge good play whether it is from your team or the opposition;
- f) Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player;
- g) Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition;
- h) Play for your own enjoyment, and not just to please parents and coaches;
- i) Remove all jewellery prior to training and match play, as it is a hazard to you and those around you;
- j) Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s), including the consumption of alcohol at any time.

## 1.2 Coaches' Code of Behaviour

- a) Remember that players participate for the fun of it and that winning is not everything;
- b) Never ridicule or yell at a player for making a mistake or being in a losing team;
- c) Be reasonable in your demands on younger players time, energy and enthusiasm,
- d) Teach your players to abide by the Rules and Laws of the Game;
- e) Whenever possible, alternate the group of players to ensure everyone has a reasonable chance of success;
- f) Avoid overplaying the talented players as all players deserve equal time on the playing field;
- g) Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players;
- h) Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players;
- i) Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and the decisions of the match official;
- j) Follow the advice of a physician when determining the extent of a player's injury and beyond that, when players are returning from injury to training and match play;
- k) Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices (refer to Coach Accreditation Criteria);

- l) Take time out to teach players (& others) the Laws of the Game, hence raising their awareness;
- m) Remind all players to play within the spirit of the game at all times;
- n) Ensure players are good sports and ensure each team member shakes the hand of their opponents at the conclusion of every match;
- o) Do not smoke or consume alcohol from the team bench (Technical Area) or sideline;
- p) Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them.

### 1.3 Parents' Code of Behaviour

- a) Remember that children play the sport for their enjoyment, and not yours;
- b) Encourage all children to participate, do not force them;
- c) Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than the result of the activity (that is, winning or losing);
- d) Do not coach your child from the sidelines, leave coaching to the coaches and assistants;
- e) Encourage children to always participate according to the rules;
- f) Never ridicule, yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game;
- g) Remember that children learn best by example, so applaud good play by both teams;
- h) Support all efforts to remove racial and religious vilification, verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities;
- i) Respect the match official's decisions and teach your child to do likewise;
- j) Show respect and appreciation to Club officials, including coaches, officials and administrators.  
Ensure any issues are raised through the correct channels;
- k) Do not smoke or consume alcohol near the team bench (Technical Area) or sideline.

**Please ensure that you inform any relatives and/or guardians/friends supporting your child of the expected Code of Behaviour.**

### 1.4 Match Officials' Code of Behaviour

- a) Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players;
- b) Praise and encourage all participants;
- c) Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions;
- d) Do not tolerate unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents;
- e) Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than focus on negative aspects;
- f) Encourage and promote rule changes to all players and members;
- g) Be a good sport yourself, as actions speak louder than words;
- h) Keep up to date with the latest trends in refereeing;
- i) Remember that you set the example on the park, therefore, your behaviour and comments should always be positive and supportive;