SHEPPARTON UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Coach/Team Manager/Committee Member/Volunteer Code of Conduct

1. Introduction

Welcome to Shepparton United Soccer Club! We are a not-for-profit club, based at McEwen Reserve in the City of Greater Shepparton. Our club is inclusive, safe and multi-cultural with a strong focus on coaching quality and player development. We are and have always been a proud family-friendly club fostering a supportive and welcoming environment. In the role of Coach/Team Manager, you acknowledge and agree to the following commitments and policies.

2. Uniforms

Coaches and Team Managers are responsible for wearing the correct club uniform for training and matches, as per club guidelines.

3. Football Victoria Code of Conduct

Shepparton United Soccer Club supports the Football Victoria Code of Conduct, and all parents, players, coaches, spectators and officials must agree to be bound by these. A copy of these can be viewed on the Football Victoria website https://www.footballvictoria.com.au/club-support-series/codeofconduct.

4. Coaches and Team Managers Code of Conduct

Every participant in our sport has a role to play in ensuring that the game is free from physical and verbal bullying and abuse, and that it is played in a competitive and fair manner.

All participants of our game have a responsibility to promote respect and good behaviour. As leaders, Coaches and Team Managers must demonstrate the behaviour that they expect their players and spectators to follow.

Responsibilities

Place the health, safety, and welfare of the participants above all else.

Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexual orientation, or religion.

Remember that children play for the fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation and development.

Never ridicule or yell at players for making mistakes or losing a game.

Teach your players to abide by the rules and Laws of the Game and to play within the spirit of the game.

Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and the decisions of Match Officials.

Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and is appropriate to the age and ability of the players.

Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players.

Be reasonable in your demands on younger players time, energy, and enthusiasm.

Any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.

Do not smoke or consume alcohol whilst supervising team members.

Do not tolerate abusive, bullying, or threatening behaviour.

Follow the advice of a physician, or listen to your player, when determining the extent of a player's injury and beyond that, when players are returning from injury to training and game scenarios.

Help each individual (player, official, etc) reach their potential - respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and compliment and encourage with positive and supportive feedback. Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them

5. Spectator Code of Conduct

All spectators of our game have a responsibility to promote respect and good behaviour to ensure our club, and our game is free from physical and verbal bullying and abuse.

All spectators and parents must abide by the Club's Conditions of Entry and demonstrate good quality behaviours that provide a welcoming environment for our sport.

All spectators attending a match or otherwise involved in any activity staged or sanctioned by FFA, FV or an affiliate Regional Association or Club must:

- Respect the decisions of Match Officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability and teach children to do the same.
- Respect the performances and efforts of all participants including players, coaches, officials, etc.
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that your child and all players participate in the sport of football for their enjoyment and not yours.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, sexual orientation, language, politics, national or ethnic origin.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language or harassing players, coaches, or officials.
- Never use violence in any form towards another person including fellow spectators, Players or Match/Team Officials (including Coaches and Ground Marshalls).
- Not engage in acts of discrimination, harassment, or abuse towards any person, including:
  a. the use of obscene or offensive language and/or gestures.
  b. the incitement of hatred or violence.
- Comply with all Conditions of Entry including provisions relating to security screening, intoxication, and items that are prohibited by law or restricted by policy from being brought into the Venue.
- Never throw missiles, projectiles, or objects of any description at Players, Match Officials, or fellow spectators.
- Not enter or attempt to enter the field of play or playing arena without lawful authority.
- Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
- Refrain from any disorderly conduct or conduct that may injure the reputation and goodwill of the club and the code of Football generally.

Any person who does not comply with this Spectator Code of Behaviour or who in the opinion of the Club and/or FV otherwise causes or is reasonably likely to cause a disturbance may be evicted from the Venue and may be banned from attending future Matches.

Any offender who then breaches the ban order against them may be charged with trespass and subject to further penalties and sanctions, including the possibility of further legal action.

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6. Training & Match Commitment

Coaches are expected to attend all scheduled training sessions and matches. If a coach is unable to attend, they must find a replacement and notify the club as early as possible. Consistent attendance is important for team development. Team Managers are required to attend on game day and carry out the responsibilities as outlined in the 'Team Manager Duties' document.

7. Child Safety Standard

Coaches, team managers and volunteers have an additional responsibility to maintain safe and professional boundaries with junior players.

They must:

- Provide appropriate supervision during training, matches and club activities.
- Communicate respectfully and use appropriate club communication channels.
- Avoid inappropriate one-on-one situations with children.
- Respect children's privacy, dignity and personal boundaries.
- Follow club procedures for changing rooms, transport, photography and other activities involving children.
- Maintain required Working with Children Checks and meet applicable screening and training requirements.
- Raise child safety concerns promptly through the appropriate reporting channels.

8. Photo & Media Release

By acknowledging this agreement with Shepparton United Soccer Club, you consent to the club capturing photos and videos during training, matches, and events for promotional and marketing purposes, including social media and the club website. If you do not consent, you must notify the club in writing prior to commencing at the club in any capacity.

9. Social Media Policy

This policy applies to any persons associated with Shepparton United Soccer Club and includes, but is not limited to, Players, Coaches, Officials, Social/Committee Members and Volunteers. This policy covers all forms of electronic communications and social media. Social media and electronic communication platforms can be used provided that such communications are courteous, respectful and factual. Be mindful of the following when using social media in relation to Shepparton United Soccer Club:

- Ensure all communications are not abusive, offensive, inappropriate or illegal
- Ensure all communications are not intended to intimidate, humiliate or bully someone
- Ensure you do not disclose another individual's personal information
- Ensure that you do not disclose confidential or competitive information

10. Complaints & Disciplinary Procedures

Shepparton United Soccer Club has a clear complaints and disciplinary procedure in place. If you have a complaint or concern, refer to the Shepparton United Soccer Club Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure or speak with:

- Junior Delegate
- Committee Member
- The Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)

If a resolution cannot be achieved at this level, the matter should be referred to the Vice President or President of the club. All complaints and disciplinary matters will be handled in accordance with the Shepparton United Soccer Club (SUSC) and governing bodies Policy and Procedure.

11. Medical Conditions

If a Coach/Team Manager/Committee Member/ Volunteer has any medical conditions, including asthma, allergies or other health concerns, the club must be notified in writing prior to undertaking any activities at the club. If you have an Action Plan please ensure that you provide the club with a copy. It is the Coach/Team Manager/Committee Member/Volunteer's responsibility to carry the relevant medication required for the condition. Shepparton United Soccer Club, Coaches, Team Managers and Club Officials are not expected or trained to deal with medical situations.

12. Indemnity & Consent for Medical Treatment

12.1 Consent

I understand that the game day will be played under the rules as set by the Shepparton Junior Soccer Association and Bendigo Amateur Soccer League and in guidance with Football Victoria.

I also understand that soccer is a physical sport and while it is a limited contact sport, there are risks associated with playing soccer that may result in an injury.

I authorise any official from Shepparton United Soccer Club in charge of the soccer game, in the event of any injuries or illness to obtain on my behalf and at my expense any medical assistance, treatment and transportation as deemed necessary.

12.2 Indemnity

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded.

I agree that Shepparton United Soccer Club and its respective directors, officers, members, or agents are free from all liability however arising from injury, however caused or occurs whilst undertaking duties associated with the Club.

By completing the registration process, you confirm that you have read and understood this document and agree to comply with the terms outlined above.