



SUPPORTS Kids
Is **SAFE** for Kids
Is **FUN** for Kids

Codes of Conduct



Codes of Conduct for Junior Sport

Coaches

- **Remember that young people participate for pleasure** - winning is only part of the fun.
- **Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport** - help your players to understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- **Relate to officials in a courteous and polite way.**
- **Implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.**
- **Implement policy and practices (and lead by example)** - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- **Listen to your players** - ensure that the time they spend with you is a positive experience.
- **Encourage young people to participate in administration, coaching and officiating** - as well as playing.
- **Promote a culturally tolerant environment.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Keep up to date with coaching practices and qualifications** - ensure you understand the principles of physical growth and development.
- **Give young people the chance to try out different playing positions and different sports.**
- **Ensure you are aware of your club's child safe policy** - ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect.
- **Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate** - is it necessary for the player's skill development?
- **Avoid developing any 'special' relationships with children** - ensure that you show no favouritism such as the offering of gifts or special treatment. This includes intimate relationships and personal online social networking with team members.



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Players

- **Play by the rules.**
- **Never argue with an official.** - if you need clarification, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition).
- **Work equally hard for yourself and your team** - your team's performance will benefit - so will you.
- **Be a good sport** - applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- **Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials** - (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like 'good luck', 'thanks for the game', 'thanks ref', 'three cheers for ...').
- **Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents** - without them there would be no competition.
- **Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit** - not just to please parents and coaches.
- **Play fair** - no verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players (including vilification) or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent.
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Do not expect or accept "special" favours from a coach or person involved in team or club management.**
- **Speak to an adult you trust if you have an issue, feel unsafe or are concerned about someone else.**



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Parents & Spectators

- **Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment - not yours.**
- **Encourage children to play according to the rules - settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.**
- **Never ridicule or yell at a child - for making a mistake or not winning.**
- **Respect officials' decisions - encourage children to do likewise.**
- **Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators- remember they are usually volunteers.**
- **Applaud good performance and efforts - from all individuals and teams.**
- **Congratulate all participants- regardless of the game's outcome.**
- **Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form – regardless of whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.**
- **Support all policies and practices (lead by example). - this includes responsible alcohol and drug use and support of child safe strategies.**
- **Support involvement in modified rules games and other junior development programs.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.**
- **Ensure you are aware and follow the correct processes to follow if you have an issue or complaint - do not perpetuate issues with gossip or general criticism.**



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Officials / Supervisors

- **Apply rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of young people and to make participation more fun.**
- **Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people**
- **Compliment and encourage all participants** - you are a role model and a source of a young person's confidence building.
- **Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.**
- **Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect** - for all opponents.
- **Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.**
- **Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards** - are they appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- **Be familiar with relevant policies and procedures relating to a child safe environment.**
- **Promote a culturally appropriate environment.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect**



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Committee Members

- **Ensure you are aware of your obligations to provide a child safe environment** - this includes risk management, child safe policy, appropriate screening of staff/volunteers and mandatory notification obligations of certain people in the organisation.
- **Ensure your club is accessible for all to participate.**
- **Create pathways for young people to participate in your club** - give them “a say “on decisions that affect them, provide leadership opportunities and most importantly listen to them.
- **Ensure that the types of programs, rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.**
- **Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players** - ensure volunteers are adequately trained.
- **Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.**
- **Ensure that everyone emphasises fair play** - not winning at all costs.
- **Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches and players** - encourage them to follow it.
- **Develop where appropriate and distribute codes of behaviour for other volunteers** - this may include team managers and sport trainers and first-aid staff.
- **Remember, you set an example** - your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- **Implement policy and practices (and lead by example)** - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- **Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.**
- **Promote a culturally tolerant environment.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.