

Codes of Conduct for Old Ignatians Soccer Club

This sample template outlines an example Code of Conduct for a sport or recreation organisation providing services to children and young people. It is provided for demonstration only and may be adapted to be more relevant to your organisation. Codes of Conduct provide the minimum expected behaviour of all personnel within your organisation.

Strategies to support your Code of Conduct should include:

- *Requiring all personnel to acknowledge and sign your code of conduct*
- *Ensuring your code of conduct is published, made widely available and communicated to all relevant personnel; and*
- *Ensuring your code of conduct it is supported by clear organisational reporting and response mechanisms to address breaches.*

Code of Conduct

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. Complete the online training on www.playbytherules.net.au.
- 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 players – 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.

Code of Conduct

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.

Code of Conduct

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.

Code of Conduct

OFFICIALS

- 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 - complete the online training on www.playbytherules.net.au

Code of Conduct

ADMINISTRATORS

- 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. Complete the online training on www.playbytherules.net.au.
- 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.