

- ◆ Create opportunities to teach appropriate sporting behaviour as well as skills.
- ◆ Ensure that skill learning has priority over highly structured competitions for young children in lower grades.
- ◆ Prepare children for interclub competitions by providing instructions on the skill of football.
- ◆ Make children aware of the fitness value of football and its life long recreational and social benefits.
- ◆ Help children understand the responsibilities and implications of their freedom to choose between fair and unfair play.
- ◆ Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

PLAYERS CODE OF BEHAVIOR

- ◆ Learn the rules of the game and play by them at all times.
- ◆ Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or team manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- ◆ Distracting or provoking opponents or verbally abusing players and officials is not permitted.
- ◆ Work hard for your team. Its performances will benefit and so will you.
- ◆ Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are your team or the opposition.
- ◆ Treat all players, as you would like to be treated.
- ◆ Cooperate with your team officials and fellow team mates.



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Junior Football Association

*"We're not playing
for Sheep Stations"*

**CODE OF
BEHAVIOUR
2009**

PARENTS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

If children are interested, encourage them to participate.

Do not force an unwilling Child

- ◆ Focus upon the child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event.
- ◆ Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake
- ◆ Remember children are involved in organised sports for their enjoyment, not yours.
- ◆ Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities
- ◆ Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- ◆ Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- ◆ If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question the officials' judgment and honesty in public.
- ◆ Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

SPECTATORS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- ◆ Children play organised sport for fun. They are not professionals and are not playing for the entertainment of spectators.
- ◆ Applaud good performances and efforts from each team.
- ◆ Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- ◆ Condemn the use of violence in any form.
- ◆ Demonstrated appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials.
- ◆ Do not consume alcohol outside of designated areas, and please refrain from smoking around players whilst in their huddles at the various breaks.
- ◆ Be aware of the difference in aims between adult sports programs and children's sports programs.
- ◆ Place in proper perspective the isolated incidents of un-sporting behaviour rather than make such incidents the "highlight" of the event.
- ◆ Focus upon children's fair play and their honest effort.
- ◆ Never ridicule or scold a young player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.

OFFICIALS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- ◆ Modify Rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
- ◆ Compliment all the participants on their efforts
- ◆ Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- ◆ Use common sense to ensure that the "spirit of the game" for children is not lost through over emphasizing errors.
- ◆ Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
- ◆ Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principle of growth and development of children.
- ◆ Create opportunities to teach appropriate sporting behaviour in all grades.
- ◆ Encourage and promote rule changes that will make participation more enjoyable especially in the lower grades, and above all ensure skill learning is a priority.
- ◆ Place safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- ◆ Give all young people a "fair go" regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

COACHES' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- ◆ Be reasonable in your demands on young player's time, energy and enthusiasm.
- ◆ Teach your players that the rules of sport are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
- ◆ Wherever possible, group players of equal ability to give a reasonable chance of individual success.
- ◆ Avoid over playing the talented players. The "just average" players need and deserve equal time.
- ◆ Remember that children participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation. Never ridicule or yell at the players for making mistakes.
- ◆ Ensure that the equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
- ◆ The scheduling and length of practice times and competition should take into consideration the maturity level of the children.
- ◆ Develop respect for the ability of opponents, the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
- ◆ Encourage children to develop skills and discourage over specialising in any one playing position.
- ◆ Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- ◆ Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and current accreditations.