

The Code of Conduct is made up of the following parts:

1. Purpose
2. Golden Rules
3. Individual Responsibilities
4. Registration Requirements
5. Undertaking

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to assist Shellharbour Junior Football Club to develop and deliver quality Football competition, particularly for youth, which promotes a fun, family environment based on the following philosophies:

- Positive Coaching
- Good Sportsmanship
- Respect For All Participants
- Co-operate with Volunteers

The Shellharbour Junior Football Club Code of Conduct covers all the sporting, moral and ethical principles for which the club stands. It is the clubs expectation that the Code will be followed by Players, Coaches, Managers, Parents, Spectators, Volunteers and Officials at all times.

Shellharbour Junior Football Club encourages good sportsmanship by all participants. "Good Sportsmanship", in fact, is one of the philosophies listed in our National By-Laws.

The Code of Conduct defines the fundamentals of good behaviour - which is simply being courteous and respectful to everyone involved in the game. Our view is that if Players, Volunteers and Parents understand what is expected of them in regards to good sportsmanship, they will probably act within those bounds. Remember, it just doesn't happen- being a good sport needs to be learned by example, encouraged at all times and taught at every opportunity!

Through co-operation with Volunteers, including Coaches, Managers, Supporters, Parents and Committee, your child can become a respected player and develop "Good Sportsmanship". By working together we can ensure that all the philosophies of the Shellharbour Junior Football Club are realised and accomplished.

2. GOLDEN RULES

The following 9 golden rules serve as a foundation for the Shellharbour Junior Football Club:

- Fair Play
- Observe the Laws of the Game
- Respect all Opponents, Team-Mates, Referees, Officials and Spectators
- Play to Win
- Accept Defeat with Dignity
- Violence is Unacceptable
- Promote the Interests of Football and the Shellharbour Junior Football Club
- Be prepared to Play
- Support the Game

Rule Explanations

a. Fair Play

Winning is without value if victory has been achieved unfairly or dishonestly. Cheating is easy, but brings no pleasure. Playing fair requires courage and character. It is also more satisfying. Fair Play always has its reward, even when the game is lost. Playing fair earns you respect, while cheats are detested. Remember: It's only a game! And games are pointless unless played fairly.

b. Observe the Laws of the Game

All games need rules to guide them. Without rules, there would be chaos. The rules of Football are simple and easy to learn. Make an effort to learn them, so you understand the game better. This makes you a better player. It is just as important to understand the spirit of the rules. They are designed to make the game fun to play and fun to watch. By sticking to the rules, you will enjoy the game more. c. Respect Opponents, Team Mates, Referees, Officials and Spectators

c. Respect all Opponents, Team-Mates, Referees, Officials and Spectators

Fair Play means respect. Without opponents there can be no game. They have the same rights as you have, including the right to be respected. Your Team-mates are your colleagues. You form a team in which all members are equal. Referees are there to maintain discipline and Fair Play. Always accept their decisions without arguing, and help them to help you enjoy the game more. Officials are also part of the game and must be respected accordingly. Spectators give the game atmosphere. They want to see the game played fairly, but must also behave fairly themselves.

d. Play to Win

Winning is the object of playing any game. Never set out to lose. If you do not play to win, you are cheating your opponents, deceiving those who are watching, and also fooling yourself. Never give up against stronger opponents but never relent against weaker ones. It is an insult to any opponent to play at less than full strength. Play to win, until the final whistle.

e. Accept Defeat with Dignity

Nobody wins all the time. You win some, you lose some. Learn to lose graciously. Don't seek excuses for defeat. Genuine reasons will always be self-evident. Congratulate the winners with good grace. Don't blame the referee or anyone else. Determine to do better next time. Good losers earn more respect than bad winners.

f. Violence is Unacceptable

Violent behaviour is unacceptable as it creates a poor example and it risks injury to yourself, your teammates and opposition. Ensure that you maintain self-control and don't lose your temper. Apart from the physical risks the reputation gained can through poor self-control and violent play taint all those associated with you. Any Player, Coach, Manager, Parent, Spectator, Volunteer or Official involved in an incident which leads to a judiciary appearance by that person before the Illawarra Junior Football Association or any other governing body will be personally responsible for payment of any fines/penalties imposed in relation to the incident.

g. Promote the Interests of Football & the Shellharbour Junior Football Club

Football is known as the world game, but it always needs your help to maintain its success. Think of Football's interests before your own. Think how your actions may affect the image of the game. Talk about the positive things in the game. Encourage other people to watch it or play it fairly. Help others to have as much fun from Football as you do. Be an ambassador for the game & the Shellharbour Junior Football Club.

h. Be Prepared to Play

All players should ensure they are fit to play. You are letting both yourself and your team down if you are not at your very best. Always heed the advice of medical staff. Keep in contact with the Coach and Manager to ensure you are aware of team activities, training schedules game times etc. Remember it's easier for you to contact the Coach/Manager than them contacting the entire team. Always advise the Coach/Manager of your availability well in advance. Always arrive at games in a timely manner. The Coach and Manager need the players support to efficiently co-ordinate team activities.

i. Support the Game

Always promote the game at every opportunity. As a spectator ensure your support is positive and sportsman like. As an official ensure you carry out your responsibilities to the best of your ability, the enjoyment of others can often be in your hands.

3. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Player's Code

- Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.
- Play by the Laws of the Game.
- Never argue with or complain about referees' calls are decisions.
- Control your temper. Most of all resist the temptation to retaliate when you feel you have been wronged.
- Concentrate on playing Football with your best efforts. Work equally hard for your team as for yourself.
- Be a good sport by congratulating all good plays, whether it's your team or your opponent's.
- Treat all players, as you would like to be treated.
- Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good. Don't be a show off.
- Co-operate with your coaches, team-mates, opponents and the referees and follow the instructions of the Ground Marshall/s both at home and away games.
- Never play when affected by Alcohol or Drugs.

Coach's /Manager's Code

- Enthusiastically support and practice the "Good Sportsmanship", "Positive Coaching" and "Respect For All Participants" philosophies of Shellharbour Junior Football Club.
- Be reasonable in your demands on a young player's time, energy, enthusiasm and performance on the field.
- Impress on your players that they must abide by the Laws of the Game at all times.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents and for the judgement of referees and opposing coaches.
- Ensure that your players' Football experience is one of fun and enjoyment (winning is only part of it). Players should never be yelled at or ridiculed for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Set a good example and be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Children need a coach they can respect.
- Keep informed of sound principles of coaching, growth and child development.
- Check your equipment and playing facilities. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of your players.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when and injured child is ready to play again.
- Follow the instructions of the Ground Marshall/s both at home and away games.
- Abide by the Football NSW Child Protection Guidelines.

- Do not allow any person to assist with training sessions or on match days unless they have completed the appropriate Child Protection Forms with the Shellharbour Junior Football Club Committee

Parent's /Guardian's Code

- As a parent or guardian, you play a special role in contributing to the needs and development of youngsters. Through your encouragement and good example, you can help assure that all the boys and girls learn good sportsmanship and selfdiscipline. It is Shellharbour Junior Football Clubs endeavour to ensure young people learn to work together, to sacrifice for the good of the team, to enjoy winning and deal appropriately with defeat - all while becoming physically fit and healthy. Best of all, they have fun.
- Support Your Child - Supporting your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in their team is very important.
- Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory - that way your child will always be a winner despite the outcome of the game!
- Always Be Positive - Parents/Guardians serve as role models for their children. Become aware of this and work to be a positive role model.
- Applaud good plays by your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports activities.
- Co-operate with your child's coaches and the referees and follow the instructions of the Ground Marshall/s both at home and away games.
- Remember: Your Child Wants To Have Fun - Remember that your child is the one playing Football, not you. It's very important to let children establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose your own standards and goals on them. Don't put too heavy a burden on your child to win games. Surveys reveal that 72% of children would rather play for a losing team than ride the bench for a winning team. Children play for the fun of playing.
- Reinforce Positive Behaviour - Positive reinforcement is the best way to help your child achieve their goals and their natural fear of failure. Nobody likes to make mistakes. If your child does make one, remember it's all part of learning, so encourage your child's efforts and point out the good things your child accomplished.
- Don't Be A Sideline Coach Or Referee - Coaches and referees are usually parents just like you. They volunteer their time to help make your child's youth Football experiences a positive one. They need your support too. That means refraining from coaching or refereeing from the sidelines. As a volunteer organisation, there's usually always an opportunity for you to take your interest in coaching or refereeing to the next level and become one yourself.
- Keep in touch with the Coach/Manager - If your child/children can't attend a training session or on match days give the Coach/Manager notice in advance so he can make alternate arrangements if necessary. Don't wait for the Coach/Manager to chase you. It is a lot easier and quicker for a parent to contact 1 Coach than for a Coach to contact 16 parents.

- Lend a Helping Hand - When your child/children's team is playing at our home ground assist the Coach and Committee in setting up the field. This includes – If you are the first team of the day on a particular field, placement of corner flags, nets, bins, etc.
- If you are the last team of the day on a particular field, removal of corner flags, nets, bins, etc. By working together we can only improve our Club so please consider assisting with canteen duties, raffles and handing out information.

Referee's Code (Ground Appointed)

- Always remember that the game is for the players. Player safety and fair play come first.
- Study and learn the laws of the Game and understand the "spirit" of the Laws. Help fellow ground appointed referees do the same.
- Encourage and enforce the " "Good Sportsmanship", "Positive Coaching" and "Respect For All Participants" philosophies of the Shellharbour Junior Football Club.
- Respect other referees' decisions and do not publicly criticise another official.
- Be properly and distinctively attired. • Maintain good physical condition so you can keep up with the action.
- Stay calm when confronted with emotional reactions from players, coaches and parents.
- Honour accepted game assignments. In an emergency, find a replacement.
- Support good sportsmanship with a kind word to players, coaches and parents of both teams when deserved.
- Always be fair and impartial, avoiding conflicts of interest. Decisions based on personal bias are dishonest and unacceptable.

4. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- i. Registration fees in an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee are to be paid at the time of registration of a player.
- ii. Once registration fees have been paid a player is considered to be registered with the Club and the fees are non-refundable, except in extenuating circumstances which shall be determined at the absolute discretion of the Executive Committee of Shellharbour Junior Football Club. The decision of the Executive Committee will be final and no further correspondence or discussion will be entered into, If your child has been placed in a graded team or a miniroo team, there will be no refund.
- iii. In the event of refund it will be exclusive of costs of all gear provided by the Club to the player.
- iv. Upon a refund being made the parent/guardian of the player will cease to be a member of the Club unless they have another child/children who remain registered with the Club.

5. UNDERTAKINGS

By registering with Shellharbour Junior Football Club Inc., the player and, if the player is under 18 years of age at the time of registration, that player's parent or legal guardian, and all Coaches/Managers, parents or legal guardians agree and undertake –

- i. to be bound by and comply with the Rules, Code of Conduct and By-Laws of the FSC, Football NSW, FFA, Shellharbour Junior Football Club and any other affiliated bodies for the time being in force.
- ii. not to reproduce or use any Shellharbour Junior Football Club name, logo, emblem or other paraphernalia associated with Shellharbour Junior Football Club in any forum, including but not limited to, the Internet and print media, without the express written permission of the Executive Committee of Shellharbour Junior Football Club.

LET THE KIDS PLAY

RESPECT THE GAME

RESPECT THE COACH

RESPECT THE REFEREE

RESPECT YOUR CHILD'S TEAMMATES

AS A PARENT

- YOU MUST BE FOCUSED ON THE PROCESS NOT ON THE RESULT
- AVOID PRESSURING A CHILD ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING
- GIVE YOUR CHILD FREEDOM TO PROBLEM SOLVE AND MAKE THEIR OWN DECISION
- ENCOURAGE ENCOURAGE ENCOURAGE
- ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO BE A PART OF A TEAM
- WATCH WHAT YOU SAY TO YOUR CHILD
- RESPECT THE REFEREE AND DO NOT CHALLENGE ANY DECISIONS
- DO NOT CONSTANTLY INSTRUCT DURING TRAINING AND GAMES
- AS A PARENT REMEMBER THAT THE REFEREE
- ON MOST OCCASIONS IS A CHILD, NOT AN ADULT
- MAY BE STILL LEARNING
- WILL GET SOME DECISIONS WRONG
- MAY MAKE SOME DECISIONS THAT GO AGAINST YOU - IT'S NOT A CONSPIRACY
- SHOULD NOT BE JUDGED LIKE AN EXPERIENCED A-LEAGUE REFEREE

DON'T CROSS THE LINE AS THE REFERREES WILL NOT HESITATE TO SHOW YOU THE RED CARD OR EVEN GET YOU REMOVED FROM WATCHING YOUR CHILD'S GAME. AT YOUR NEXT GAME KEEP CALM AND REMEMBER

- REFEREES ARE ONLY HUMAN
- ENCOURAGEMENT
- STAMP OUT NEGATIVITY
- PLAYERS ARE ONLY CHILDREN
- ENJOY WATCHING THE GAME
- COACHES AND MANAGERS THIS IS NOT THE WORLD CUP

Because of the ongoing verbal abuse taking place at our junior football games at Shellharbour Junior Football Club, we have adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy towards abusive behaviour. Shellharbour Junior Football Club has decided to take a proactive approach and adopt the following measures:

The following is the policy for all Shellharbour Junior Football Club members.

It is the responsibility of ALL coaches, players, parents, relatives, siblings, and other spectators to maintain the highest standards of conduct for their behaviour at all SJFC games including, but not limited to, practices, games, and tournaments.

Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting, and other behaviours detrimental to the sporting event will not be tolerated.

It is the responsibility of ALL present to support the presiding official of that particular sport, ie: referees, umpires, officials, etc.

There will be absolutely NO YELLING OR BELITTLING of these presiding officials. In addition, there will be no criticism, sarcasm, harassment, or intimidation of any kind towards the presiding officials.

Failure to follow these simple instructions will undermine the official's authority and has the potential to lead to a hostile environment for players, officials, and all other participants and spectators.

It is the understanding of any parent that chooses to have their child participate at Shellharbour Junior Football Club that these simple guidelines MUST BE FOLLOWED.

Penalties:

Any minor infraction: A verbal request or warning will be given by a coach/manager, referee, ground marshal or SJFC committee member, and it is expected that the reason for the warning will stop immediately.

Subsequent infractions: The offending person or player will be asked to leave the playing field area. The SJFC Committee reserves the right to take further action depending on the severity of the situation. Should anyone not comply with this ruling, SJFC will seek assistance from the local Police department immediately on the day.

Serious or consistent infractions: The SJFC Committee reserves the right to take action as it deems necessary up to and including permanent dismissal from all SJFC games and playing areas, which will include deregistering your child from SJFC. Should anyone not comply with this ruling, the SJFC Committee will seek assistance from the local Police department immediately on the day.

All participants in any Shellharbour Junior Football Club games should adhere to the following principals of good sportsmanship:

- Respect the decision of coaches and officials
- No expletives, disparaging comments or derogatory remarks

- Treat opponents with respect whatever the outcome of the competition, be respectful.
- At the conclusion of the game, congratulate and shake hands with the officials, coaches, and opponents.
- Do not encourage or participate in conduct that violates the rules or spirit of the game.

The following are some simple guidelines that coaches, players, and spectators are expected to follow:

Coaches/Managers

Coaches are the role models for our youth and will make an impression on the players for years to come. Coaches must demonstrate good sportsmanship on and off the field. "Coach" represents and symbolizes a leadership role in our community and a representative of SJFC at all competitions. Coaches are expected to:

- Ensure and promote the safety of all participants.
- Control the behaviour of the parents/fans during competitions
- Show respect to all players, parents, officials, and opponents
- Teach fair play Lead by example

Spectators

SJFC is honoured to have incredible parents and spectators. It is important to remember that the players respond to the actions and behaviours of the spectators. Spectators are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and show respect to all players, officials, and coaches. Spectators are also expected to:

- Not coach players from the sidelines during the game
- Do not criticize the officials or coaches
- Cheer and support all players regardless of the outcome
- Communicate with the coach and create a supportive environment
- Understand and respect the different roles of parents and coaches
- Understand that improper behaviour at any event may result in a parent being asked to leave the field or event by a referee or other official and respect that action
- At all times show empathy for our young developing athletes

Everyone

- Promote fitness and enjoyment through sport developing new skills instilling a desire to succeed.
- Teach responsibility, commitment, and cooperation
- Prepare one to deal with success and failure
- Provide an outlet for the release of energy
- Always instil a positive attitude towards authority The likelihood that our children will realise positive sports value is greatly enhanced when everyone shows good sportsmanship