**Codes**

**of**

**Conduct**

**Coach Code of Conduct**

1. I understand that as an integral component of my accreditation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the game and the players/staff in my care. In representing myself in an honest manner, and without bringing the coaching profession or the game into disrepute. I will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of my ability:
2. I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background or special ability/disability.
3. I will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the game and the rules of my club and league association.
4. I will be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the players in my care, having due consideration for their health and wellbeing.
5. I will be supportive at all times and will refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in my care.
6. I will have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of my players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in competition.
7. I will avoid overplaying the talented players, aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability. Where I am responsible for players in the 5-12 age group, I will ensure that all players gain equal playing time.
8. I will stress and monitor safety always.
9. In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, I will seek and follow the physician’s advice concerning the return of injured or ill players to training.
10. I will endeavour to keep informed with regard to sound principles of coaching and skill development, and to factors relating to the welfare of my players.
11. I will at times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practice fair play.
12. I will display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.
13. I will ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development as priorities are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
14. I reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the anti-doping and illicit drugs policies.
15. Note:This Coaches Code of Conduct is to be signed and conformed as part of the accreditation requirements of the AFL. Coaches should be aware that, in addition to this code, they may be obliged to sign a further Code of Conduct/Ethics with their club and/or league.

**Player Code of Coduct**

1. Abide by the rules set down by your coach, club and league.
2. Never argue with an official or umpire. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official after the game.
3. Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials, umpires, spectators or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team’s performance will benefit and so will you.
5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team, opponent or the other team. Be proud to walk of the ground after each game knowing that you have given you best effort.
6. Treat all players as you would like to be treated do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Your involvement is for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of it.
7. Co-operate with your coach and team mates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.
8. Play for the ‘fun of it’ and not just to please parents and coaches.
9. Never use derogatory language based on gender or race.

**Parent and spectator Code of Coduct**

1. To be read in conjunction with AFL kids first
2. Encourage children to participate if they are interest. However, if a child is not willing do not force them.
3. Focus upon the child’s efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
4. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
5. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
6. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a game.
7. Remember your child should be involved in football for their enjoyment, not yours.
8. Remember your child learns best by example. Applaud good play by both
9. If you disagree with an official or umpire, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official’s judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most officials give their time and effort for your child’s involvement.
10. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from junior and youth sporting activities.
11. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child and deserve your support.
12. Support your club’s officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the league and your family. Offer your assistance to the team that your child is playing in so that every opportunity is being provided for the very best supervision and support. Your involvement will give both yourself and your child far more satisfaction.
13. Never use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

**Committee member/Administrator Code of Coduct**

1. Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic group.
2. Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
3. Ensure the adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
4. Remember that children participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.
5. Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
6. Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
7. Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
8. Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents
9. Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
10. Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sport behaviour.
11. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
12. Ensure promotion, well being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
13. Ensure positive player/umpire/relationships are continually developed.