**Football Victoria and Fawkner Soccer Club**

**Code of Conduct**

**2023 Season**

All participants in our sport have a responsibility to promote respect and good behaviour to ensure our clubs and our game are free from all forms of bullying and abuse.

All players must abide by this Code of Conduct and demonstrate behaviours that promote a welcoming environment within our sport.

**PLAYERS**

1. Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
2. Respect all other participants and the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
3. Play fair, play by the rules, and play to the best of your ability, always.
4. Be a good sport, displaying modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Respect the equipment and facilities provided to you as part of your program.
6. Be honest with your coach concerning illness and injury, and your ability to train and play.
7. Never yell at, ridicule, or criticise other participants. They are all trying their best.
8. Cooperate with your coach, teammates, referees, and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.
9. Respect and follow the directions of your team officials and match officials.
10. Do not argue with the match official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the match official during a break in play or after the match is concluded.
11. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
12. Be respectful whether you win or lose. Shake hands with the other team and match official at the end of the game.
13. If you feel unsafe or uncomfortable at your club speak to someone you trust.

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any / all of the following actions may be taken by my Club or Competition Administrator. I may:-**

* Be required to apologise to my team mates, the other team and the referee.
* Receive a formal warning from the coach or the Club Committee.
* Be dropped or substituted.
* Be suspended from training.
* Be required to leave the Club.

**In addition:**

* My Club or Competition Administrator may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct.

**COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS**

1. Place the health, safety, and welfare of the participants above all else.
2. Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexual orientation, or religion.
3. Remember that children play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation and development.
4. Never ridicule or yell at players for making mistakes or losing a game.
5. Teach your players to abide by the rules and Laws of the Game and to play within the spirit of the game.
6. Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and Match Officials, including by respecting decisions by Match Officials.
7. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
8. Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players.
9. Be reasonable in your demands on younger players’ time, energy, and enthusiasm.
10. Any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person’s skill development.
11. Do not smoke or consume alcohol whilst supervising team members.
12. Do not tolerate abusive, bullying, or threatening behaviour.
13. Follow the advice of a physician, or listen to your player, when determining the extent of a player’s injury and their return from injury to training and game scenarios.
14. Help each individual (player, official, etc.) reach their potential - respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage with appropriate, positive and supportive feedback.
15. Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them.

**SPECTATORS AND PARENTS**

All spectators attending a match or otherwise involved in any activity staged or sanctioned by FA, FV or an affiliate Regional Association or Club must:

1. Respect the decisions of match officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability and teach children to do the same.
2. Respect the performances and efforts of all participants including players, coaches and officials.
3. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
4. Remember that your child and all players participate in the sport of football for their enjoyment and not yours.
5. A player from the age groups of U8’s to U12’s must be accompanied by a parent/carer on training nights and on game days.
6. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, sexual orientation, language, politics, national or ethnic origin.
7. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language or harassing players, coaches, or officials.
8. Never use violence in any form towards another person including fellow spectators, players or match/team Officials (including coaches and ground marshalls).
9. Not engage in acts of discrimination, harassment, or abuse towards any person, including:

**a.** the use of obscene or offensive language and/or gestures; and/or

**b.** the incitement of hatred or violence.

1. Comply with all conditions of entry including provisions relating to security screening, intoxication, and items that are prohibited by law or restricted by policy from being brought into the venue.
2. Never throw missiles, projectiles, or objects of any description at players, match officials, or fellow spectators.
3. Not enter or attempt to enter the field of play or playing arena without lawful authority.
4. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
5. Refrain from any disorderly conduct or conduct that may injure the reputation and goodwill of the club and the code of football generally.

Any person who does not comply with this Spectator Code of Behaviour or who in the opinion of the Club and/or FV otherwise causes or is reasonably likely to cause a disturbance may be evicted from the venue and may be banned from attending future matches.

Any offender who then breaches a ban order against them may be charged with trespass and subject to further penalties and sanctions, including the possibility of legal action.

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my Club or Competition Administrator. I may:**

* Be required to apologise to other parents, the other team and the referee.
* Receive a formal warning from the Club Committee.
* Be suspended from attending matches.
* My child’s registration may be cancelled.

**Any fine/s, which includes related costs, issued to a player (ie, red card), Coach, Team Manager or Spectator, due to misconduct will be the responsibility of the person at fault not the Fawkner Soccer Club. Players found guilty may also be subject to training and / or match day suspensions until any outstanding costs due to fine/s have been cleared.**

**We also agree for the Fawkner Soccer Club to use photos of the players for promotional use and that players may be subject to Team Trials and can be moved around in their relevant Age Group if there is more than one team.**

**Also, all players will play in their correct age group in 2023 unless otherwise agreed by the club which will be decided on case by case basis.**

**I have read the FV & FSC Codes of Conduct for Players, Coaches, Team Managers, Spectators and Parents and agree to abide by this Code.**