



# ESSENDON DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## CODES OF CONDUCT

### Expectations of Coaches:

- Abide by the Laws and Rules – always operate within the Laws of the Game and Rules of your club and the League and teach your players to do the same.
- Teach the Rules – rules are mutual agreements which nobody should break.
- Group players competitively – give all players equal attention and opportunities, everyone needs and deserves equal time.
- Avoid overplaying talented players – be reasonable in your demands on player's time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Maximise fun – place winning in perspective, remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of it.
- Stress safety always – make sure equipment and facilities meet safety standards and suit the age and ability of your players.
- Consider maturity levels – devise training programs to suit all, ensure any physical contact with a young person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Develop team respect – for opponents, umpires, parents, officials, spectators and coaches.
- Recognise the importance of proper injury treatment – treat sick and injured players with care and seek professional advice on whether injured players are ready to resume training or competition.
- Keep up to date – with coaching practices and principles of physical growth and development.
- Attain coaching accreditation and update regularly.
- Avoid derogatory language – based on gender or race, create opportunities for participants to learn appropriate sports behaviour, lead by example at all times.
- Respect to all – respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- I abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy and reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport.
- Be supportive of any development strategies that are promoted by our governing body.

### Expectations of Officials/Umpires:

- Remember you are representing your club/league and setting an example to your players/parents. Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Apply rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of participants. Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating, sport safety policy and the principles of growth and development, place safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Try to resolve any conflict in a calm, sensible manner (when possible in private).
- Be aware of potential volatile situations at all times and be prepared to deal with them appropriately.

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

**Expectations of Administrators:**

- Make your club environment user friendly by providing equal opportunities for all to participate, not just as a player. E.g. umpiring.
- Ensure programmes, rules etc. are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity of young people.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction and ensure they are well trained and set the right example.
- Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.
- Ensure a Code of Conduct sheet is given to spectators, officials, parents, coaches and players and encourage them to follow it.
- Maximise child safety by conducting volunteer screening.
- Implement policy and practices in relation to responsible use of alcohol and performance enhancing drugs.
- Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Listen to your players and involve them in decisions, leadership, planning and evaluation relation to the club.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- For advice on any issues you can contact the EDFL Head Office or AFL Victoria for further assistance.