

ARBROATH FC

CODES OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

Arbroath FC aims to provide all Players and Coaches with a Safe Sporting Environment. It is committed to developing the SFA's standard of *Fair Play* amongst coaches, players and officials, increasing enjoyment and positive experiences.

Statement

Arbroath FC believes that Football belongs to everyone and that racism, sectarianism and bigotry in any form has no place at our club and more generally in Sport what so ever. The Club will not tolerate racist, sectarian, bigoted or discriminatory behaviour of any kind and actively promotes equal opportunities throughout the Club.

THE CODES OF CONDUCT

The following Codes of Conduct set out the standards expected of Coaches and Officials, Players and their Parents, and other supporters. These Codes of Conduct are based on *Sports Coach UK's Coaching Standards* and are in line with the SFA's Youth Development Criteria for Senior Football Clubs. They cover behaviours, attitudes, relationships, responsibilities and conduct expected by the Club. Breaches of these Codes of Conduct will be addressed and dealt with by the Club.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS

Arbroath FC Coaches and Officials have a *legal and moral Duty of Care* towards all Players within the Club. They will take reasonable steps to protect players from harm during all Club activities; always acting in their best interests and putting their welfare first, with no exception.

Coaches will be role models, consistently displaying high standards of behaviour and appearance. They should be punctual for activities, promote good coaching practice and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Coaches must make clear to all players and their parents exactly what is expected of them and what they are entitled to expect from the coaches and officials within the Club. Players must be empowered to point out and highlight attitudes or behaviour that is not acceptable, as defined in these codes of conduct.

Coaches must ensure that all activities are appropriate to the age, maturity, experience and ability of the players they are working with. Recognising the capacity of players and ensuring that excessive training is avoided.

Following injury players should only be treated in an open environment and not alone behind closed doors. Coaches must co-operate with the advice of First Aiders and Physiotherapists concerning all players.

Coaches should always try to give constructive feedback rather than negative criticism and must not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

Coaches must develop appropriate relationships with youth players, based on mutual trust and respect. They must avoid having favourites and should not spend time alone with a player away from the other coaches. If they do have to meet with a player away from club activities they should only do this when a parent or other club official is present.

Players must not be physically assaulted, bullied or deliberately reduced to tears as a form of control, harassment or intimidation by any coach or club official.

Coaches must not form any type of intimate physical relationship with a youth player, or make sexually suggestive comments, or engage in sexually provocative games. These types of incidents must be reported to a club official, if observed or suspected.

All activities must be properly supervised, with a minimum of two coaches or officials in attendance. If groups of youth players have to be supervised in changing rooms coaches should work in pairs.

Coaches should avoid traveling alone with a youth player, making sure that pick up or drop off points have at least two players. If a single player has to be transported the club should seek the consent of the player and a parent.

All allegations made by a youth player must be recorded and acted on.

If there are any concerns about a player then a parent should be informed where appropriate. All incidents of abuse must be reported to Peter Connolly (Youth Player Protection Officer).

YOUTH PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

These Codes of Conduct apply to all Players.

The Club expects all Players to:

Abide by the instructions and advice of their Coaches and Officials, unless this contradicts the Club's Codes of Conduct.

Always put the interests and reputation of the Club and Team first, over and above self interests.

Make every effort to lead a healthy lifestyle, giving maximum effort and striving for high standards and best performances during training and matches.

Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical standards expected from a player of Arbroath Football Club.

Recognise the good play of others and take appropriate measures to safeguard the welfare of opponents. Treating other Players, Coaches and Officials with due respect.

Take responsibility for your own behaviour during training and matches. Learning to control emotions, whilst putting your energy and focus into playing football.

Refrain from using inappropriate language, learning to accept success and failure with equal dignity.

Show due respect toward Match Officials, never arguing with their decisions and playing by the Laws of the Game.

All Players should learn and know the laws, and rules of the game.

Code of Conduct for Parents and Supporters of the Youth Teams

Parents and other adult supporters have a significant influence on the attitude and behaviour of the players in the Youth Teams.

Parents and supporters are asked to set a positive example for the players, in terms of their behaviour toward other teams, supporters and match officials.

Parents are asked to be positive and encouraging towards all players, applauding the opposition as well as their own team.

Parents must not coach players during games and must avoid shouting.

Parents should respect the decisions of match officials at all times and not at any time shout or confront a match official.

Parents and supporters who are unable to follow this simple guidance will be asked not to attend matches.

Arbroath Football Club's Independent -
Children and Young Person's Child Protection Officer is:

Peter Connolly

Who can be contacted on: 07752110805