



Bluebirds United Football Club

Code of Conduct

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to set forth the expectations and standards of behaviour for all members, players, coaches, parents, spectators, and administrators associated with Bluebirds United Football Club ("the Club"). This policy aims to promote a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment where all participants can enjoy and develop through the sport of football.

2. SCOPE

This Code of Conduct applies to all individuals involved in the Club's activities, including but not limited to games, training sessions, meetings, social events, and any other club-sanctioned activities. The policy is applicable to both junior and senior levels of participation.

3. POLICY STATEMENTS

The Committee of Management is committed to:

- Providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all participants
- Ensuring that all members are treated with respect and dignity, free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, or abuse
- Promoting fair play, teamwork, and the positive development of all players

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 Players

- **Effort and Commitment:**
 - Always give your best effort during training and matches
 - Be punctual and prepared for all club activities
 - Take responsibility for your actions and be a positive role model for your teammates and other members of the club
- **Respect:**
 - Show respect for coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials
 - Play by the rules and uphold the spirit of the game



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- Verbal or physical abuse, intimidation, or deliberate provocation will not be tolerated
- **Inclusion:**
 - Treat everyone with respect, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality, or religion
 - Discrimination, harassment, and bullying are strictly prohibited
- **Contribution to Club Life:**
 - Recognize the volunteer nature of the club and contribute your time or skills whenever possible
 - Assist in setting up and packing away equipment at training and matches
 - Participate in club events, fundraising, and community activities
- **Communication:**
 - Inform your coach in advance if you are unable to attend a training session or match
- **Responsible Behaviour:**
 - Display responsible behaviour concerning alcohol and other drugs

4.2 Coaches

- **Player Development:**
 - Prioritize player development and enjoyment of the game over winning
 - Provide positive and constructive feedback to players
 - Respect the talent, developmental stage, and goals of each player
- **Fair Play:**
 - Promote fair play and respect for all participants
 - Lead by example in demonstrating respect for opponents, officials, and other coaches
- **Safety and Integrity:**
 - Ensure that all training and match environments are safe and appropriate for the age and ability of players
 - Maintain appropriate boundaries with players in accordance with the club's Safeguarding Policy
- **Inclusion and Respect:**
 - Treat all individuals with respect and fairness, regardless of their background or identity
 - Actively discourage and address any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying



- **Professional Development:**
 - Stay updated with the latest coaching practices and continue to develop your coaching skills
 - Adhere to the club's team selection policies and communicate decisions transparently
- **Responsible Behaviour:**
 - Display responsible behaviour concerning alcohol and other drugs

4.3 Parents and Spectators

- **Support and Encouragement:**
 - Encourage your child to participate, try their best, and have fun
 - Focus on effort and development rather than the outcome of the match
 - Avoid criticizing or yelling at children for making mistakes
- **Role Modelling:**
 - Model respectful behaviour towards all players, coaches, officials, and other spectators
 - Refrain from engaging in verbal or physical abuse or inappropriate behaviour
- **Involvement in Club Life:**
 - Support the club by attending matches and events, volunteering your time, and participating in fundraising activities
 - Communicate with the coach if your child is unable to attend a training session or match
- **Responsible Behaviour:**
 - Display responsible behaviour concerning alcohol and other drugs

4.4 Administrators

- **Leadership and Governance:**
 - Ensure that the club operates in a manner that is inclusive, fair, and in the best interests of all members
 - Provide clear and effective communication with members regarding club policies, decisions, and events
 - Uphold the principles of transparency, accountability, and integrity in all club operations
- **Support for Coaches and Volunteers:**
 - Offer resources, training, and support to coaches and volunteers to help them perform their roles effectively



5. SAFEGUARDING AND WELFARE

• **Player Welfare:**

- The health and safety of all players are paramount. The club is committed to providing a safe environment, including regular medical assessments, appropriate injury management, and adherence to safety protocols
- Players must report any injuries or health concerns to their coach/team manager immediately and follow the prescribed treatment and rehabilitation programs as directed by a qualified medical practitioner.

6. SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- The use of illegal drugs, performance-enhancing substances, or alcohol abuse is strictly prohibited. This applies both on and off the pitch, during training, matches, and all other club-related activities
- Any member found violating this policy will face disciplinary action, which could include suspension or expulsion from the club.

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

• **Positive Role Models:**

- All members of Bluebirds United FC are ambassadors of the club and are expected to act as positive role models within the club and in the wider community.
- Members should promote the values of the club and contribute to creating a positive image of Bluebirds United FC.

• **Community Involvement:**

- The Club encourages all members to actively participate in community outreach programs, charitable activities, and events that promote the values of football and contribute to social causes
- The club aims to strengthen its ties with the local community and contribute to its development through various initiatives

8. SOCIAL MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

• **Responsible Communication:**

- Members are expected to be mindful of their social media presence, avoiding posts that could harm the club's reputation, the wellbeing of others, or violate the principles outlined in this Code of Conduct
- Posts, comments, and interactions on social media should be respectful, positive, and aligned with the club's values.



- **Media Interactions:**

- When interacting with the media, members should represent the Club positively, refraining from making inflammatory, negative, or controversial statements.
- Only authorized personnel may speak on behalf of the club. Members should refer any media inquiries to the designated club spokesperson.

9. REPORTING AND ADDRESSING BREACHES

- **Reporting Violations:**

- Any breach of this Code of Conduct should be reported to the club's management or committee. Members are encouraged to report violations without fear of retaliation.
- The club will investigate all reported breaches fairly and confidentially.

- **Consequences:**

- Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary actions, which could include verbal or written warnings, fines, suspension, or expulsion from the club, depending on the severity of the offense.
 - The disciplinary committee will consider the nature and context of the violation when determining appropriate actions.
- The club reserves the right to refer any serious breaches to external authorities if necessary

10. POLICY REVIEW

This Code of Conduct Policy shall be reviewed as part of the Club's three-year review cycle by the Executive Committee to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. Any amendments must be approved by the Executive Committee and communicated to all relevant parties.

Member Acknowledgment:

- All members are required to acknowledge their understanding and acceptance of this Code of Conduct. This acknowledgment should be renewed annually or when significant updates are made.

11. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION

This policy was approved by the Executive Committee of Bluebirds United Football Club Inc. on 4th September 2024 and is effective immediately.



12. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Rev Number	Date	Author	Approver
001	16/08/2024	G.Freier	K.Maitland

