

Bendigo Bank Bendigo Junior Football League

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Players
2. Parents
3. Coaches
4. Spectators
5. Officials
6. Administrators
7. Teachers
8. Media

The Bendigo Junior Football League Code of Behaviour is based upon the AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION Code of Behaviour and has been amended and altered to the needs of the BJFL.

The Coaches Code of Behaviour is now the standard code set by the AFL Victoria Country.

PLAYER'S CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Abide and play by the rules of the game and the rules set down by the Bendigo Junior Football League, your Club and Coach.
2. Never argue with an Official, do not question the Officials and Umpires judgement and never question their honesty.
3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of Officials or other Players, deliberately distracting an opponent is not accepted or permitted in any other sport.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your Team's performance will benefit and so will you.
5. Never ridicule or yell at other players for making mistakes. Your involvement is to play for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of it. Be a good sport, applaud all good play whether they be your Team, opponent or the other Team.
6. Treat all Players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Always conduct yourself in a manner that is expected of your Team mates, Club and Family.
7. Co-operate with your Coach and Team mates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.
8. Place in proper perspective the isolated incidents of unsporting behaviour rather than make such incidents the "highlight" of the game.
9. Players must not assault or attempt to assault an umpire, another Player, Officials or Spectators.
10. Be proud to walk off the ground after each game knowing that you have given your best effort and never involve yourself in an argument with opposing Players, Umpires or Officials.

PARENT'S CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. If Children are interested, encourage them to participate. However if a child is not willing, do not force him or her.
2. Focus on the Child's efforts and performances rather than the overall outcome of the game. This assists the Child in setting a realistic goal related to his/her ability by removing the emphasis on winning.
3. Teach Children that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
4. Encourage Children to always participate according to the rules.
5. Never ridicule or yell at a Child for making a mistake or losing a game.
6. Remember that Children are involved in organized sport for THEIR enjoyment, not yours.
7. Remember that Children learn best from example. Applaud good play by all Teams.
8. If you disagree with an Official, raise the issue through appropriate channels (via your Child's Club who can then bring it to the attention of ruling body) rather than question the Official's judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most Officials give their time and effort for your Child's involvement.
9. Support effort to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
10. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer Coaches. They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities and deserve your support.

COACHES CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Be familiar with the laws of Australian Football and abide by the rules and conditions of your League and Club
2. Teach your Players that rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no player should evade or break
3. Group Players to age, height, skill and physical maturity whenever possible in any competitive practice session.
4. Avoid over playing the talented Players. The "just average" Players need and deserve equal time, if not more.
5. Remember that Players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Emphasise the importance of learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your Players for making mistakes or losing a competition.
6. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of Players.

7. The scheduling and length of training times and competitions should take into consideration the maturity level of the Player.
8. Develop Team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of Umpire, and opposing Coaches.
9. Follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured Player is ready to play or train again.
10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound junior coaching principles and developments. Endeavour to attain coaching accreditation and to become an active member of the local branch of the Australian Coaches Association.
11. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

SPECTATORS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Children play organized sport for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of Spectators nor are they miniature professionals.
2. Applaud good performances and efforts from each Team. Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
3. Respect the Officials' decision. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure in order to question the decision and teach the Children to do likewise.
4. Never ridicule or scold a Child for making a mistake during competition. Positive comments are motivational.
5. Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it Spectators, Coaches, Officials or Players.
6. Show respect to your Teams' opponents. Without them there would be no game.
7. Encourage Players to follow the rules and the Officials decision.
8. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing Players, Coaches or Officials.

OFFICIALS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Ensure rules and regulations are interpreted to match the skill level of the Children and their needs.
2. Compliment all participants on their efforts.
3. Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all infringements.
4. Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
5. Use common sense to ensure the "spirit of the game" for Children is not lost over emphasising errors.
6. Actions speak louder than words. Ensure that your behaviour and performance is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
7. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.

ADMINISTRATORS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Remember you're administering a sport involving children. Lead by example in all aspects of your involvement, whether at Club or League level.
2. Ensure that equal opportunities for participating in sports are made available to all Children, regardless of ability, size, shape, sex, age, disability, or ethnic origin.
3. Equipment and facilities must be safe and appropriate to the level of participating Children.
4. Rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules should take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating Children.
5. Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent Coaches and Officials, capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
6. Remember Children participate for enjoyment. Play down the importance of rewards.
7. Avoid the game becoming primarily spectator entertainment. Focus on the needs of the participant rather than the enjoyment of the spectators.
8. Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of Coaching and Officiating, with the emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
9. Ensure that parents, Coaches, Officials and Players understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.

10. Distribute a Code of Behaviour to Spectators, Officials, Parents, Coaches, Players and the Media.

TEACHERS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The following is a suggested code of behaviour for those Teachers who support the aims of the AUSSIE SPORTS program.

1. Encourage Children to develop basic skills in a variety of sports and discourage over specialisation in one sport or in one playing position.
2. Create opportunities to teach appropriate sports behaviour as well as basic skills.
3. Ensure that skill learning and appropriate behaviour have priority over highly structured competitions for young Children in early Primary school.
4. Ensure that skill learning and free play activities have priority over highly structured competitions for young Children in early Primary school.
5. Prepare Children for inter house and inter school competitions by first providing instruction in basic sports skills.
6. Make Children aware of the physical fitness values of sport and their life-long recreational value.
7. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and the principles of physical growth and development.
8. Help Children understand the fundamental differences between the junior games competitions they play and the professional sport.
9. Help Children understand the responsibilities and implications of their freedom to choose between fair and unfair play.

MEDIA CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Provide coverage of Children's competitive and non-competitive sport as well as reporting Adult sport.
2. Be aware of the difference between Adult sports programs and Children's sports programs.
3. Place in proper perspective the isolated incidents of unsporting behaviour rather than making such incidents the "highlight" of the event.
4. Focus upon Children's fair play and their honest efforts.
5. Children are not miniature professionals and Adults should not place unfair expectations on them.
6. Identify and report on the problems of children participating in organized sports and report the violations and distortions of their rights as participants.
7. Be aware of the difference between the goals of amateur sports and those of professionals sports. Make the readers, viewers and listeners aware of these differences.
8. Play for the 'fun of it' and not just to please Parents and Coaches.

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