



## **Code of Conduct**

### **GENERIC**

1. Equality: Doddinghurst Olympic Football Club (hereinafter known as 'The Club') is opposed to discrimination of any form and will promote measures to prevent it, in whatever form, from being expressed.
2. Participants: The Club recognises the sense of ownership felt by those who participate at all levels of the game. This includes those who play, those who coach or help in any way, and those who officiate, as well as administrators and supporters. The Club is committed to appropriate consultation.
3. Young People: The Club acknowledges the extent of its influence over young people and pledges to set a positive example.
4. Propriety: The Club acknowledges that public confidence demands the highest standards of financial and administrative behaviour within the game, and will not tolerate corruption or improper practices.
5. Trust and Respect: The Club will uphold a relationship of trust and respect between all involved in the game, whether they are individuals, clubs or other organisations.
6. Violence: The Club rejects the use of violence of any nature by anyone involved in the game.
7. Fairness: The Club is committed to fairness in its dealings with all involved in the game.
8. Integrity and Fair Play: The Club is committed to the principle of playing to win consistent with Fair Play.

### **SPECTATORS**

1. Remember that children play organised sports for their own benefit. They are not there to entertain you.
2. Be on your best behaviour. Do not use profane language or harass (physically or verbally) players, managers, coaches, referees or officials.
3. Applaud all good play by your own team and the other team.
4. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
5. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a game.
6. Condemn the use of violence and verbal abuse.
7. Respect the referee and official's decisions. Remember they are only human with the same feelings as you and, like you, sometimes they make an honest error.
8. Encourage players always to play according to the laws of the game
9. Read the laws of the game to better understand what you are looking at and commenting on.
10. Promote this code of conduct amongst other spectators.
11. Be supportive, but do not interfere or give instructions to the players, it is easy to confuse children with too many messages.
12. Make yourself aware of the FA's Respect programme, see <http://www.thefa.com/respect>.



## **PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER**

1. Familiarise yourself with the FA's Respect "Parents and Carers" guide, see <http://www.thefa.com/respectguide>.
2. Read the laws of the game to understand better what you are looking at and commenting on.
3. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in football.
4. Remember that children are involved in football for their enjoyment, not yours.
5. Encourage your child to play according to the laws of the game and not to argue with referees or other officials.
6. Teach your child that honest effort is more important than victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
7. Turn losing into winning by helping your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a game.
8. Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by your own team and by members of the opposition.
9. Do not question the referee's judgement or honesty. Remember he/she is only human with the same feelings as you and, like you, sometimes may make an honest error.
10. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's football.
11. Recognise the value and importance of coaches who are all volunteers. They give up their time and resources to provide football for your child.
12. Encourage your team and support your teams coaching staff, remember, they are there to instruct and guide your children. Do not interfere or give instructions to the players.
13. Promote this code of conduct amongst other Parents, Guardians or Carer's.

## **PLAYERS**

1. Play for the "fun of it", not just to please your parents or coach.
2. Play by the laws of the game.
3. Only the team Captain can talk to the referee. Never argue with the referee or other officials.
4. Control your temper and use your energies for playing better football.
5. Play well for yourself and your team – the team's performance will benefit and so will your own.
6. Be a good sport. Recognise all good play, whether by your team or by your opponent's.
7. Treat all players as you yourself would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any other player.
8. Remember that the aims of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good.
9. Co-operate with your manager/coach, team mates and opponents, for without them you would not have a game.
10. Learn the laws of the game and you will be a much better player.
11. Promote the code of conduct amongst your team mates.



## **MANAGER'S/COACHES**

1. As a Team Manager or Coach you, by your actions and conduct, set the example for your players, parents/guardian's, and spectators. Set a good example at all times.
2. Read the players/spectators/parents/guardian's code. Understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport. Actively promote and support these codes.
  - Give / organise a briefing for Parents/Carers and Officials at the start of each session to ensure appropriate behaviour
3. Managers/Coaches must place the well being and safety of each player above all other considerations including the result of the game.
4. Ensure that each player is correctly dressed with the necessary safety equipment, shin pads etc. before being allowed to play.
5. Get treatment for an injured player immediately and co-operate fully with any specialists in the best interests of the player.
6. Never physically or mentally push children beyond their abilities. The game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well being.
7. Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance. Never condone unacceptable behaviour by not acting upon it.
8. Always be prompt, courteous and correct when dealing with League Officials, Opposition managers, Referees and assistant referees. Confirm venues, times and dates etc. as early as possible and at reasonable times during the day.
9. Read, understand and be aware of your responsibilities as laid down in your league handbook.
10. Check that you have the necessary equipment, documentation and first aid equipment before you leave for a match or training.
11. Read the laws of the game and assist your players in understanding them.
12. Promote the code of conduct.
13. Agree to take part in an educational courses organised by the respective league, County FA or the Football Association.
14. Agree to a self-certificated check with regard to your suitability to work with children.