



CODE OF CONDUCT

Lane Cove Football Club prides itself on being a community club that is open to all players regardless of age, gender or experience level. In order to make Lane Cove Football Club a welcoming and enjoyable club to play for, the club has a Code of Conduct that it expects all players, parents, members, spectators and volunteers to abide by. The Code of Conduct embodies the values we want Lane Cove Football Club to be known for, and by playing for Lane Cove Football Club players and members agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is administered by the Lane Cove Football Club Committee, and it will be the responsibility of the club's Committee to take action if there is a breach. This way we can ensure everyone continues to enjoy playing football with our great club, and that we maintain our excellent reputation as a community-focused and safe club for all our members.

The following Code of Conduct has separate sections applicable to Players, Parents and Spectators, Coaches and Officials.

Players

- Never argue with a match official. If you disagree with a decision of a match official, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break in play or after the match has completed.
- Play by the rules and the spirit of the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse, sledging or deliberately provoking or distracting match officials, your opposition or your teammates is unacceptable behaviour.
- Treat all other players and officials in the same manner as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Be a good sport and applaud all good plays, whether they are made by your team or the opposition. Never ridicule a player for making a mistake.
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no match to play in.
- Attend training sessions and games at the designated time. If you are going to be late or absent, let your team manager or coach know as soon as possible.
- Participate for your own benefit and enjoyment, not just to please parents or coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Physical violence will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- For players 18-years and over, display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol.
- Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.

Parents and Spectators

- Set a good example for your children through your conduct.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Remember that children play sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.



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- Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing; positive comments help motivate young players.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a match.
- Remember that children learn best by example.
- Encourage children to play by the rules and within the spirit of football.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators - without them, your child could not participate.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to others involved with football. This includes, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators.
- Advise the team manager, as soon as possible, if your child cannot attend any game.
- Support all team members with encouragement from the sideline, not just your child/ren.
- No coaching from the sideline. There is only one voice and that is the coach directing the players of that team.
- You are not allowed on the field except when tending to an injured player.
- Physical violence will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol.

Coaches

- Any physical contact with a young player should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for their development.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience. All young players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Young players should be spoken to in an appropriate manner. Players should not be yelled at or ridiculed, or spoken to in a demeaning manner.
- Coaches will ensure that players are involved in a positive environment and that the game and training is a positive experience.
- Coaches will encourage all players to play within the laws of the game.
- Coaches will not engage in the use of crude, foul or abusive language that may be determined offensive.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Whenever possible obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage players to do the same.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.



- Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at a young player for making a mistake or not coming first.
- In relation to electronic and / or online dealings involving people under the age of 18, all volunteers should strive to:
 - Avoid any direct contact or communication on social media (including Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, X and other similar social media platforms);
 - Avoid directly contact people under the age of 18 via telephone, audio or video call or electronic message; and
 - Avoid any other form of direct electronic communication or contact with people under the age of 18. All contact should be made through the child's parent or guardian.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their age, gender, race, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
- You are not allowed on the field except when tending to an injured player.

Officials and Volunteers

- Display control, respect and professionalism to others involved with football. This includes, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Where permissible, modify rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of young people (including sport's injury management plans and return to play guidelines).
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the importance of the spirit of the game.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up-to-date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Remember, that you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else. Do not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- In relation to electronic and / or online dealings involving people under the age of 18, all volunteers should strive to:
 - Avoid any direct contact or communication on social media (including Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, X and other similar social media platforms);
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CLUB OFFICIAL / COACH / VOLUNTEER DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, in my capacity as club official / coach / volunteer for Lane Cove Football Club, hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the Lane Cove Football Club Code of Conduct and will abide by its requirements.

Signed

Print Name

Date