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## LANE COVE FOOTBALL CLUB POLICY ON BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINE

Lane Cove Football Club (LCFC) players, volunteers, officials and supporters are expected to display exemplary sportsmanship and behaviour on and off the field. This includes show appropriate respect towards match officials (referees and assistants), whether officially appointed or otherwise, and shall always abide with the requests of such officials. Argumentative behaviour and inappropriate language will not be tolerated.

Players and supporters will comply with any reasonable request of the LCFC Board (the Board) and its members, the Northern Suburbs Football Association (NSFA), its Grievance and Discipline Regulations, its officials, all team coaches and managers.

Referees may penalise players for inappropriate play or behaviour on the field and may also request team officials or supporters to leave the field in the case of inappropriate behaviour. Any such penalties or requests shall be complied with in good grace and without argument.

Upon review by the NSFA Review Panel, players may be sanctioned based on the NSFA Table of Offences. The most recent can be found here.

A player who receives a sanction from the Review Panel will be advised of this by the LCFC Board or team official (manager or coach). The player may choose to challenge the sanction issued by the Review Panel. This challenge will be reviewed by the NSFA Protests, Disputes & Disciplinary Committee (PD&DC). LCFC must be notified of the intent to challenge within 24hrs. An intention to challenge must be lodged, in the form prescribed by NSFA, along with any evidence, in writing by 5pm on the 3rd working day after LCFC has been notified of the Initial Sanction.

If players wish to challenge a sanction, they are responsible for paying any cost of doing so (for the 2025 season, the challenge fee is \$200). If, following a challenge, the PD&DC makes a finding of no guilt, then the challenge fee will be refunded. If the PD&DC downgrades the Initial Sanction, no refund is required to be provided.

If a player challenges a sanction, they are expected to attend the PD&DC meeting on the nominated date or alternatively will advise their LCFC contact of their inability, within the required period. Players may request a team official or Board member to accompany them to a hearing. Hearings are generally held by video call, not in person.

The Board reserves the right to impose suspensions (independently or in addition to PD&DC Committee suspensions), or participation in "club service" activities in cases where the Board considers player behaviour has brought the LCFC into disrepute. In extreme cases the Board can immediately de-register a Player from the LCFC on a temporary or permanent basis. Player fees will not be refunded in this circumstance.

**LCFC Board** 

UPDATED: June 2025