



Fair Play Policy

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Introduction

Conduct according to the spirit of Fair Play is essential for the successful promotion and development of and involvement in sport. The objective of Fair Play is to foster a sporting spirit, as well as the sporting behaviour of coaches, players, team officials and spectators, thereby increasing the enjoyment of all those involved in the game.

In order that clubs may address the behaviour of supporters in a meaningful way, consideration must be given to the actions and activities of four integral parts of those associated with the club; its coaches, players, officials and the parents and guardians of its youth players.

The Club has subsequently introduced Fair Play Charters, which should be abided by at all times, when representing Aberdare Town Football Club.

Code of Conduct for the Team Coaches

Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions, as well as strategic targets, have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a “win-at-all-costs” attitude. Increased responsibility is requested from coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, school, coach or parent.

Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport

Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance

Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies

Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect

Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward

Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance

Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players

Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parent) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach

Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player

Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques

Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.

Coaches must not use or tolerate inappropriate language

Coaches must promote and encourage, particularly to young players, the importance of a healthy lifestyle and diet

Coaches must provide guidance and support to players on the dangers of drug abuse

Code of Conduct for Players

Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. But not winning at any cost – Fair Play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important.

This Code focuses on players involved in top-class football. Nevertheless, the key concepts in the Code are valid for players at all levels. Consequently, the Committee of Aberdare Town Football Club would like to adopt these high standards, as is the case throughout the Football Club.

Obligations towards the game:

A player should:

Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina

Make every effort to lead a healthy lifestyle which will include an appropriate diet and an avoidance of recreational or performance enhancing drugs

Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved

Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters

Avoid all forms of gamesmanship and time-wasting

Always have regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game

Not use inappropriate language

Obligations towards one's own team

A player should:

Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win

Resist any influence that might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning

Respect for the Laws of the Game and competition rules

A player should:

Know and abide by the Laws, rules and spirit of the game, and the competition rules

Accept success and failure, victory and defeat with an equal measure of dignity

Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques

Respect towards Opponents

A player should:

Treat opponents with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game

Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents

Respect towards the Match Officials

A player should:

Accept the decision of the Match Official without protest
Avoid words or actions that may mislead a Match Official
Show due respect towards Match Officials

Respect towards Team Officials

A player should:

Abide by the instructions of their Coach and Team Officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this Code
Show due respect towards the Team Officials of the opposition

Obligations towards the Supporters

A player should:

Show due respect to the interests of supporters
Code of Conduct for Team Officials
This Code applies to all team/club officials (although some items may not apply to all officials).

Obligations towards the Game

The team official should:

Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters
Promote and develop their own team having regard to the interest of the Players, Supporters and reputation of the national game
Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this rather than personal interests
Avoid all forms of gamesmanship
Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game
Always have regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game
Not use or tolerate inappropriate language

Obligations towards the Team

The team official should;

Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team, and to obtain the best results for the team, using all permitted means
Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests
Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques
Promote ethical principles
Show due respect for the interests of the players, coaches and officials, their own club/team and others

Obligations towards the Supporters

The team official should:

Show due respect for the interests of supporters

Respect towards the Match Officials

A team official should:

Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest
Avoid words or actions that may mislead a Match Official
Show due respect towards Match Officials

Code of Conduct for Parents and Guardians with young players connected with the club

Parents have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. All children play football because they first and foremost love the game – it's fun. It is important to remember that however good a child becomes at football within our club it is important to reinforce the message to parents that positive encouragement will contribute to:

- Children enjoying football
- A sense of personal achievement
- Self-esteem
- Improving the child's skills and techniques

A parent's expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards:

- Other players
- Officials
- Managers
- Spectators

We must ensure that parents within our club are always positive and encouraging towards all of the children not just their own.

Encourage parents to:

- Applaud the opposition as well as our own team
- Avoid coaching the child during the game
- Not to shout and scream
- Respect the referee's decision
- Give attention to each of the children involved in football not just the most talented
- Give encouragement to everyone to participate in football
- Ensure that parents within the club agree and adhere to the club's Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policy.

Code of Conduct for Supporters

The crowd is considered to be an organic component of a football game. The support of the fans may contribute to the success of the team. The crowd is not expected to watch the game in silence.

Encouragement of the teams by shouting, non-abusive singing, etc. may have a positive influence on the atmosphere in accordance with the spirit of Fair Play.

The spectators are, however, expected to respect the opponents and the referee. They should appreciate the performance of the opposition even if they emerge as winners.

They should in no way intimidate or frighten opponents, the referee or opposing supporters.