



# ***Code of Conduct for Manager's, Parent's and Players***

***2024/2025***



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MANAGERS & COACHES

Managers and Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football and their concept of this and their attitude towards the game directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision.

This Code of Conduct is not designed to conflict with the basic desire to win and be successful; however the Club does not promote a “win at all costs” attitude and instead places the wellbeing and safety of each player above all other considerations including the development of performance.

### The manager:

- Must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual respect and understanding
- Must encourage & guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour & performance
- Must ensure that activities they direct are appropriate for the age, maturity experience and ability of players and neither physically or mentally push a child beyond their abilities
- Should at the outset clarify with the players (and where appropriate parent) exactly what is expected of them
- Must always promote the positive aspects of the sport and never condone violations of or behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game
- Must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance
- Must consider the health of all participants and comply with Government and FA guidance on safe measures, and with the Club Risk Assessment

### Obligations towards the game

#### The manager should:

- Set a positive example for others particularly young players and supporters
- Promote and develop his/her own team having regard to the interest of the players, supporters and reputation of the National Game
- Appreciate the importance of striving to win and not winning itself
- 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
- Always have a regard for the best interest of the game including publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game
- Not tolerate or use bad language or poor behaviour in any circumstance
- Show due respect for the interests of the players, supporters, coaches and officials of their own club team and others
- Be a good sport; recognise all good play, whether by their team or by their opposition
- Accept the decisions of the match official and avoid words or actions which may mislead them
- Show due respect for match officials
- Always be prompt, courteous and correct when dealing with match officials, opposition teams and league officials
- Have all necessary equipment, documentation, first aid and infection control equipment available at training or matches
- Observe, and ensure players observe, social distancing instructions and guidelines whilst in place

### Obligations towards the team/players

#### The manager should:

- Remember children learn best by example
- Manage the team on behalf of the club
- Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team 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 and unsporting influences including banned substances and techniques
- Promote ethical principles
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during the game
- Ensure that all players are correctly attired and are wearing shin pads
- Get treatment for an injured player and co-operate fully with match officials and medical personnel as required
- Ensure that they have read the Club Anti-Bullying policy and deal immediately with any issues so arising if necessary or consult with the Club for assistance.



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS

Parents and guardians have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. **It is important to remember that however good a child becomes at football whilst playing for the Club, positive encouragement to all players is essential and will contribute to:**

- Children enjoying football
- A sense of personal enjoyment
- Improved self esteem
- Developing the child's skills and techniques

**A parents/guardians expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards other players, officials, managers and spectators. Adults should always aim to:**

- Enable the player to have a clear understanding of the standards of behaviour expected
- Help players to understand the Laws of the Game and competition rules
- Display patience
- Appreciate that adults' and children's' football are not the same
- Ensure that they have read the Club Anti-Bullying policy and speak immediately with the manager if an issue arises or consult with the Club for advice.

**For the enjoyment of all members, the following Code of Conduct is expected to be followed by ALL parents/guardians:**

- Parents must develop an appropriate and supportive relationship with both the manager and their child based on mutual respect and understanding
- Applaud good play by both teams, show your opponent's respect, as without them there is no game
- Emphasise the importance of striving to win, not winning itself. Praise effort & performance over results
- Avoid coaching during training and matches
- Display high standards of behaviour - Do not shout and scream at players
- Do not use bad language or harass, physically or verbally abuse players, coaches or match officials
- Respect all officials' decisions, whether qualified or unqualified, experienced or newly qualified
- Do not make derogatory comments towards players, officials & supporters of opposing teams
- Avoid becoming frustrated or ridiculing young players by focusing on their failings
- Offer plenty of support and positive encouragement towards all players during matches
- Ensure that all players are attired appropriately for the weather conditions and have the correct footwear, shin pads, drinks and warm clothing when appropriate
- Observe, and ensure players observe, social distancing instructions and guidelines whilst in place
- Inform the manager if a child cannot attend training or match days and make every effort to arrive in time to prepare or warm up
- Respect the decisions and team selection of the manager. These are the sole responsibility of the manager, whose decision is final
- Any issues or complaints regarding the running of a game must be dealt with by the team manager and concerns should be brought to their attention at the appropriate time.
- Adhere to and promote the positive aspects of the sport
- Give attention to each of the children involved in football not just the most talented
- Respect all members of the club
- Remain behind the Respect barrier or at least 1 meter behind the touchline and don't stand behind the goal line.
- **DO NOT enter the field of play at any time**, unless requested to do so by the match official

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or the FA:**

- Be issued with a verbal or written warning from a Club or League official
- Be required to meet with members of the Club committee to include the club Welfare Officer
- Be required to meet with the League or Surrey FA Welfare Officer.
- Be requested to undertake an FA education course
- Be required to leave the match venue by the Club
- Be requested by the Club not to attend future games.
- Be suspended by the Club.
- Be requested to leave the club along with any dependents.



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

Players are the most important people in the sport. Playing for the team and playing 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 are fundamentally important at Stoneleigh Athletic FC, which fully supports and promotes this ethos.

### These key concepts are valid for players at all levels and age groups

- Play for the “fun of it” not just to please your parents or coach or anyone else
- Play by the rules of fair play and the Laws of the Game. Learn these and you will be a much better football player
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat equally
- Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game
- Set a positive example for others
- Avoid all forms of poor gamesmanship and time-wasting
- Show due respect towards and never argue with the Referee or Assistant Referee’s decisions
- Accept the decision of the match official without protest
- Abide by the instructions of the manager and team officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this code
- Show due respect towards the team officials of the opposition
- Control your temper and use your energies for playing better football
- Do not use inappropriate language or make rude gestures and avoid words or actions which may mislead a match or opposing team official
- Play well for yourself and your team - your teams’ performance will benefit and so will your own
- Make every effort to develop your own sporting abilities in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina
- Be a good sport. Recognise all good play, whether by your team or by your opponents’ team and always shake opponents’ hands at the end of a game
- Observe, and ensure players observe, social distancing instructions and guidelines whilst in place
- Treat all players with respect, as you yourself would like to be treated.
- Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any player
- Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violent and rough play and help injured opponents
- Remember that the aims of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good. Do not be a show off
- Co-operate with your manager, teammates and opponents, for without them you will not have a game
- Players should make every effort to attend club training sessions
- Players should respect and look after all training and playing areas at all times
- Players are expected to follow the guidelines and rules as laid down in the Clubs constitutions and Code of Conduct
- Players are to accept responsibility for their own conduct and behaviour during games and training
- Players should ensure they have read or are aware of the Club Anti-Bullying policy and approach an adult with any concerns they may have or consult with the Club for assistance.

**I understand that if I do not follow the code any/all of the following actions may be taken by my Club, Surrey FA or the FA**

- Be required to apologise to my team mates, the opposition, referee or team manager
- Received a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended by the club
- Be required to leave the club

**All registered players will be asked to sign a copy of this Code of Conduct to confirm that they have read and understood it and that they agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.**