



STRATFORD DOLPHINS FOOTBALL CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY 2023

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1. Introduction

Stratford Dolphins Football Club are determined to maintain the highest levels of professionalism across all aspects of our club. In order to do that we need to ensure the right codes of behaviours are displayed by our coaches, players, parents, supporters and club members. It is a privilege and a pleasure to coach your child and to help them grow as young men and women. Their development as footballers and as people is important to the club and a large part of all of us becoming successful is to ensure we create the right culture and environment. In order to ensure your child reaches their full potential it is important that the correct expectations around behaviours and attitude are set. These behaviours will help build team harmony and set the tone for team culture and are designed to improve performance and build leadership qualities.

- On game day it is vital that there can only be 1 message from the sideline. If you are heard on match day giving tactical or technical instructions, you will be asked to move away or your son/ daughter will be substituted. Please be respectful of the role of the coach.

- Do not ask or question where your son/daughter is playing. If you are not confident in our coaches being in charge of the development of your child, then you need to question if you are in the right environment for your child.

- Game time will not always be equal.

- The game day is an expression of the weeks training focus. The learning is done during the week with the chance to apply it game day. Time will be a reflection of performance, application of tasks during training, effort and behaviour

- Avoid any unnecessary emotional stress on your children by setting realistic expectations with them about their progress as footballers. There is a fine line between smothering a child's development by constantly praising/celebrating or criticising every minor achievement. This can have a negative effect on the player's development by setting unrealistic perceptions of their true ability which can often lead to problems with attitude particularly when the child feels they are not living up to their parent's expectations. Our suggestion is that a gentle guiding hand of support is the best way to encourage your child's progress.

- Parents will not be allowed in the dressing room apart from designated officials.

- At training Parents are asked to keep a respectful distance from the fields and to not get involved with any of the activities, comment or provide instructions.

- The behaviour of the player will be monitored at training and game day. Inappropriate comments made to or about fellow team members will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be taken against the player. It's a team game and all players deserve the respect of their team mates. We ask all parents to reinforce this message to their child. Positive and constructive talk is what is required on the field.





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- Bullying will have zero tolerance with any child found to be involved being dismissed from the club.

- Be aware of your child's activities on social media.

2. General code of behaviour:

As a member of Stratford Dolphins Football Club you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by the Club:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.

2. Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others.

3. Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.

4. Make a commitment to providing quality service.

5. Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, Association Football standards, rules, regulations and policies.

6. Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines which govern [the sport], the member associations and the affiliated clubs.

7. Do not use your involvement with Association Football, a member association or an affiliated club to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of Association Football, a member association or an affiliated club.

8. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18

years of age, as your words and actions are an example.

9. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.

10. Refrain from any form of harassment of others.

11. Refrain from any behaviour that may bring [the sport], a member association or an affiliated club into disrepute.

12. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.

13. Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.

14. Be a positive role model.

15. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.

16. Abide by the governing body being Football Queensland Code of Conduct.





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3. Parent / Guardian code of behaviour:

As a parent/guardian of a player/participant in any activity held by or under the auspices of Stratford Dolphins Football Club, a member association or an affiliated club, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Remember that your child participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.
3. Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
4. Never ridicule or yell at your child and other children for making a mistake or losing a competition.
5. Show appreciation for good performance and skilful plays by all players (including opposing players).
6. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
7. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
8. Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (player, coach, umpire and so on).
9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

10. Be a positive role model.

11. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.





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4. Administrator Code of Behaviour:

In addition to Stratford Dolphins Football Club's General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held by or under the auspices of Association Football, a member association or an affiliated club and in your role as an administrator of [the sport], a member association or an affiliated club:

1. Resolve conflicts fairly and promptly through established procedures.
2. Maintain strict impartiality.
3. Be aware of your legal responsibilities





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5. Coach code of behaviour:

In addition to Stratford Dolphins Football Club's General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Stratford Dolphins Football Club, a member association or an affiliated club and in your role as a coach appointed by Association Football, a member association or an affiliated club:

1. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
2. Provide feedback to players and other participants in a manner sensitive to their needs. Avoid overly negative feedback.
3. Recognise players' rights to consult with other coaches and advisers. Cooperate fully with other specialists (for example, sports scientists, doctors and physiotherapists).
4. Treat all players fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socioeconomic status and other conditions.
5. Encourage and facilitate players' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
6. Involve the players in decisions that affect them.
7. Encourage players to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of play.
8. Ensure that the tasks and/or training set are suitable for age, experience, ability, and physical and psychological conditions of the players.
9. Ensure any physical contact with players is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
10. Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your players in the coaching relationship and avoid any sexual intimacy with players that could develop as a result.
11. Avoid situations with your players that could be construed as compromising.
12. Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, and the use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances.
13. Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your players.
14. Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules.
15. Know and abide by rules, regulations and standards, and encourage players to do likewise. Accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules.
16. Be honest and ensure that qualifications are not misrepresented.
17. Avoid commenting on other clubs social media sites





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6. Player code of behaviour:

In addition to Stratford Dolphins Football Club's General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Association Football, a member association or an affiliated club and in your role as an official appointed by Stratford Dolphins Football Club, a member association or an affiliated club:

1. Place the safety and welfare of the players/participants above all else.
2. Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
3. Be impartial.
4. Avoid any situation, which may lead to a conflict of interest.
5. Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
6. Value the individual in sport.

