

Codes of Conduct

Camden Falcons Football Club (CFFC) fosters the opportunity for all in the community to enjoy the great game of football.

The success of the club depends heavily on the contributions from players, coaches/managers, parents/guardians and spectators.

At Falcons we want all contributors to make it an enjoyable atmosphere for all involved.

With this in mind we support the Football Federation of Australia (FFA) Codes of Conduct for

- Coaches
- Players
- Parents/guardians
- Spectators

In the following, the principles from the FFA are outlined along with additional guidance from the Club/ Committee (in red) on what is expected at the Falcons. We have also outlined our expectations for Managers which is not covered by the FFA.

1. Coach Code of Conduct (FFA/CFFC)
(a) Operate within FFA rules and promote integrity and good character amongst participants. Promote fair play over winning at any cost.
(b) Encourage and support opportunities for participants to learn appropriate behaviours and skills in all aspects of the sport. Ensure the game and training are a positive and enjoyable experience.
(c) Treat each participant as an individual. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all players and ensure that everyone is treated fairly regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
(d) Help each participant reach their potential - respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each individual and encourage with positive and supportive feedback. If players are all putting in the effort try as much as possible to give all players fair time on the field. Allow for some rotation to give players development and learning opportunities. It is not about having your best players on the field every week in their best positions.
(e) Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with participants under the age of 18 years. Ensure that any physical contact is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
(f) Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else. Provide a safe environment for training and competition, by ensuring the equipment and facilities meet safety standards. Where possible let a medic take an injured player off the field if the player can't do it themselves.
<p>(g) Adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour and ensure that your decisions and actions contribute toward creating an environment which minimises participant behaviour likely to bring the game of football into disrepute. Such behaviour is not to be tolerated and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Discriminatory behaviour, including public disparagement of, discrimination against, or vilification of, a person on account of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion; ii. Offensive behaviour, including abusive, obscene, harmful, provocative or insulting gestures, language or chanting; iii. Intimidation of match officials, coaches or administrators or the use of actions to pressure a match official, coach or administrator to take or omit to take certain action regardless of where such action is taken; iv. Unwelcome physical contact or harassment which makes a person feel offended, humiliated and/or intimidated where that reaction is reasonable in the circumstances; v. Abuse of position to obtain personal benefit; vi. Commission or charge of a criminal offence; or vii. Any other conduct, behaviour or statement that materially injures the reputation and goodwill of FFA or football generally. viii. Refrain from foul or abusive language or any form of personal abuse towards any Player, Match Official or other persons.
<i>Continue to improve knowledge of the game and keep up with the latest coaching practices.</i>

2. Player Code of Conduct (FFA/CFFC)
(a) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow participants, coaches, officials and spectators. <i>Play by the rules. Accept and respect the official's decision.</i>
(b) Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow team members and competitors. <i>Don't have a go at your team mates. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.</i>
(c) Care and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program. Do not deliberately damage training equipment or club property. Return your shirts at end of games and do not wear them outside of games.
(d) Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train fully within the program requirements. Let your coach know if you are injured or ill so they can take it into account when assessing your effort, performance and availability.
(e) Maintain honesty in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Give your best effort at all times. If you are not putting in the effort then you cannot expect the same playing time as those who are.
(f) Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level. Listen to your coach and manager and assist them when and where you can to set up and collect cones, goals, balls etc.
(g) Ensure that you do not exhibit behaviour that is likely to be construed as bringing the FFA or the game of football into disrepute, as outlined by Article 1(g).
<i>Continue to work on improving your skills, effort and performance.</i>

3. Manager Code of Conduct (CFFC)
Ensure quality supervision and instruction for Players is undertaken by Coaches.
Support Coaches to create a positive environment at the game and training; respect the rights, dignity and worth of all Players; and try to give all players equally time on the field.
Act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the club as a whole.
Ensure that any information acquired or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly.
Conduct club responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence. Get involved in appropriate ways if the coach or parents/spectators behave in unacceptable ways.
Ensure match payments and other fees are received and passed onto the committee within appropriate club guidelines.
Ensure team shirts are distributed to all Players prior to each game and are collected afterwards to be washed and prepared for the following week. Team shirts must be returned to the bag after each game.
Ensure match cards are completed in accordance with requirements prior to all games.
Ensure all team members and their families receive all necessary information in a timely manner.

4. Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct (FFA)

(a) Treat your child the same irrespective of them winning or losing.

(b) Remember that your child participates in the sport of football for their enjoyment and not yours.

(c) Try to have fun when you are around your children at competitions. Well-directed humour can be a great de-stressor.

(d) Look relaxed, calm and positive on the sidelines.

(e) Make friends with other parents at competitions.

(f) Get involved in appropriate ways if your child or the coach behaves in unacceptable ways during competitions.

(g) Let the coach do the coaching

(h) Understand that children will benefit from a break sometimes and that involvement in other sports is acceptable.

(i) Be there when your child performs poorly. Be an understanding listener rather than a critic, judge and/or fixer.

(j) Be prepared to give your child some space so that he/she can grow and develop as an independent person.

(k) Let your child know that your love for them is not associated with their sporting performances.

(l) Communicate with your child and ask them how they are really feeling about their sport and about competing in particular.

(m) Occasionally let your child compete without you being there and hovering over them.

(n) Emphasise the good things your child did in preparing for and during the competition.

(o) Try to avoid:

- i. Saying “we’re competing today” and instead say “you’re competing today”; give your child credit for accepting the responsibility of performing;
- ii. Getting too pushy or believing that you are indispensable, let the coach do the coaching;
- iii. Living through your child’s performances;
- iv. Turning away when your child performs;
- v. Turning away when your child’s behaviour is unsportsmanlike;
- vi. Telling your child what he/she did wrong after a tough competition;
- vii. Making enemies with your child’s opponents or family during a competition;
- viii. Making your child feel guilty by reminding them about all the time, money and sacrifices you are making for his or her sport;
- ix. Thinking of your child’s sporting performances as an investment for which you expect a return;
- x. Badgering, harassing or use sarcasm to motivate your child;
- xi. Comparing your child’s performances with those of other children; or
- xii. Forcing your child to go to training, if they are sick of training find out why and discuss it with them.

5. Spectator Code of Conduct (FFA)

(a) respect the decisions of Match Officials and teach children to do the same;

(b) never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake;

(c) respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin;

(d) not use violence in any form, whether it is against other spectators, Team Officials (including coaches), Match Officials or Players;

(e) not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form, including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting;

(f) comply with any terms of entry of a venue, including bag inspections, prohibited and restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to cause injury or public nuisance;

(g) not, and must not attempt to, bring into a venue national or political flags or emblems (except for the recognised national flags of any of the competing teams) or offensive or inappropriate banners, whether written in English or a foreign language;

(h) not throw missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators) and must not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority; and

(i) conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of FFA and football generally.