

DAREBIN WOMEN'S SPORTS CLUB



Code of Conduct

**MANDATORY & ENFORCEABLE CODES OF CONDUCT FOR
COACHES, PLAYERS, PARENTS, SUPPORTERS AND OFFICIALS**

The Club Code of Conduct applies to all Darebin Women's Sports Club (the "Club") officials, volunteers, players, members and supporters.

For ease of reference, all sports played by members of the Club including AFL, soccer, eight ball, recreational football and cricket are herein referred to as 'the game'.

In addition to this Code of Conduct, all players, coaches, parents, supporters and officials must abide by the Club's policies, as found on the Club's website, www.falcons.org.au These include but are not limited to: Drug and Alcohol policy, Racial and Religious tolerance policy.

Our commitment to identify and prevent behaviour that may be harmful to children and young people in the game is detailed separately in the Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People and the 'Looking After Our Kids' Code of Behaviour. Breaches of the 'Looking After Our Kids' Code of Behaviour or of the law are handled in accordance with the Child Safe Policy.

ALL CLUB MEMBERS

Club members must, at all times and while in public, behave in a manner which upholds and promotes the highest standards of integrity and dignity. DWSC members must not behave in any way so as to bring their sport or the DWSC into disrepute.

Public behaviour includes, without limitation, behaviour during travel to or from matches, participation in authorised matches, Club Functions (including pre-season camps and end-of-season trips) and other public venues where the DWSC member is participating in authorised activities.

Always represent yourself, your team, and the DWSC in an appropriate and responsible manner.

When representing DWSC in a position of power – whether that be making team selection, resource allocation, game player of the match votes, player scouting or any other situation where a conflict of interest may arise – we ask that you act in an ethical manner by disclosing your relationships (including familial or personal) and put in place strategies to mitigate risks, potentially including removing yourself from processes or decisions wherever necessary. For example, if you are the team manager of your daughter's team, it might be prudent for you to get someone else to do the Best on Ground votes or at least get someone to second that decision.

Remember, you are not only a representative of your team but also of the DWSC. Behaviour, both positive and negative, reflects on all members of DWSC. Think carefully about how your actions, words and behaviour will impact upon others around you, your teammates and other club members.

The Club is a member of the Darebin Community and as such is respectful of its neighbours and supporters and seeks to role-model this behaviour. To ensure that the Club maintains a positive and beneficial relationship with its members, neighbours and other members of the Darebin community, all Club members are expected to observe the following:

- Do not drive in or out of the Club grounds at excessive speed.
- Do not use abusive language when in a public space.
- Do not abuse the Club's facilities including, but not limited to damage or theft.
- Do not engage in at risk or illegal behaviours including, driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol and bringing illicit drugs onto the club's property.
- Do not use discriminatory remarks that target, for example, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ability. Any Club member who uses discriminatory language may render themselves liable for prosecution.
- When bringing a dog to any Club event or game day either at home or away, dog owners have a responsibility to ensure that they are not subject to owner liability. This includes ensuring your dog is secured, on leash and supervised by a responsible adult during training sessions, games and other club events. It is also imperative that dog owners clean up after their pets.

COACHES

All coaches are required to adhere to the Coaches' Codes of Conduct of their specific leagues and the club. These include:

- The AFL coaches' Code of Conduct (requirement for Level 1 Accreditation).
- The FFV Coaches' Code of Behaviour as found in the FFV Rules of Competition.
- Cricket Victoria's Code of Conduct.

PLAYERS

- Play by the rules – the rules of the Club and the laws of the game.
- Never argue with an umpire, an official, your teammates or opponents. Control your temper.
- Be a team player. If your sport is a team game, treat it that way.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated – fairly.
- Co-operate with your coach, officials, the umpires and teammates.

PARENTS, SUPPORTERS & OFFICIALS

- Remember that you are there to ensure that participants enjoy the game as well as enjoying the game yourself.
- Encourage participation, but don't force it.
- Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning. Never ridicule mistakes or losses.
- Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires and spectators – physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Recognise all volunteers who are giving up their valuable time.
- Never publicly criticise umpires – raise personal concerns with club officials in private.

- Do not use discriminatory remarks that target, for example, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ability. Any person who uses discriminatory language, may render themselves liable for prosecution.
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The DWSC Committee of Management may apply the following sanctions to any player, parent, coach, club official or supporter found to be in breach of the Code of Conduct based on the seriousness and frequency of their behaviour:

1. Caution
2. Direction to leave the club event
3. Attendance at a meeting with members of the Committee of Management to discuss the breach and appropriate sanction/s
4. Additional club duties
5. Participation in personal development
6. Suspension from club activities (including games)
7. Expulsion from the Darebin Women's Sports Club

In the event that the breach requires attendance at a meeting with the Committee of Management (COM), that COM will be comprised of Club President, Club Vice President, Club Secretary and a representative from each sporting code.

Any club person who is alleged to have breached the code of conduct will always be given a "right of reply". They will also be offered the opportunity to bring a support person to any official discussions regarding the alleged breach. In the case of a dispute with the Committee of Management, an independent mediator may be retained to mediate the dispute.

The Darebin Women's Sports Club will at all time ensure that any person undergoing any of the above procedures will be dealt with in a sensitive and confidential manner, irrespective of the alleged breach of the Rule or Code of Conduct.

I _____ [insert your name] agree to abide by these principles and support the Club in its undertakings. I will support the Club's Committee in its decision to take any necessary disciplinary actions including where warranted banning or suspending anybody who breaches the above Code of Conduct.

I also confirm that I have read and agree to abide by the DWSC Child Safety Code of Conduct and the DWSC Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy

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(signature)

.....
(date)

Please retain a copy of the Code of Conduct for your own reference.