

MANLY WARRINGAH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction:

This Code of Conduct is designed to:

- Promote physical fitness by encouraging participation in football that is safe, inclusive and enjoyable
 - Enhance enjoyment, satisfaction and positive experiences for all members of the Manly Warringah Football Association (MWFA).
 - Reinforce that people participate in sport for their own enjoyment, not solely to satisfy adults or peers.
 - Remind officials, coaches, players, parents and spectators that football must be administered and delivered for the benefit of all participants.
-

Players

Players are expected to:

- Play by the rules of the game.
 - Play for enjoyment, not just to please parents or coaches.
 - Never argue with officials; any concerns should be raised by the team captain or coach.
 - Control their temper and refrain from verbal abuse of officials, referees or other players.
 - Work equally hard for themselves and their team.
 - Be a good sport and applaud good play by both teams.
 - Treat all players with respect and fairness. Bullying or unfair behaviour will not be tolerated.
 - Cooperate with coaches, managers, teammates and opponents.
 - **Sledging, in any form, will not be tolerated.**
-

Coaches

Coaches are expected to:

- **INSIST** on fair play and do not tolerate foul play, fighting or inappropriate language. Coaches must be prepared to remove offending players if required.
- Remember that children participate for enjoyment and that winning is only one part of the game.
- Never ridicule, belittle or yell at a player for making a mistake or losing.
- Be reasonable in demands placed on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Teach players to understand and follow the rules of the game.
- Wherever possible, group players to give everyone a reasonable chance of success.
- Avoid overplaying talented players; all players deserve equitable playing time.
- Ensure equipment and facilities meet appropriate safety standards.
- Never ridicule, belittle or yell at a referee for making a mistake (real or perceived) and ensure that the referees are respected by all participants.
- Foster respect for opponents, officials, referees and opposing coaches.
- Commit to ongoing education in sound coaching principles and the growth and development of all participants.
- Act as a positive role model, using praise appropriately and consistently.

Parents and Spectators

Parents and spectators are expected to:

- Remember that players participate for their own enjoyment.
 - Applaud effort, performance and sportsmanship from both teams.
 - Support initiatives to eliminate all verbal and physical abuse from sport.
 - Encourage players to play by the rules and respect their opponents.
 - Respect officials' decisions and follow appropriate procedures if concerns arise.
 - Never ridicule or scold a child for making mistakes; positive support is motivational.
 - Show appreciation to volunteer coaches, managers and officials.
 - Respect opposing teams, acknowledging that without them there is no game.
 - Remember that actions speak louder than words and ensure behaviour sets a positive example.
 - **Sledging, in any form, will not be tolerated.**
-

Officials/Clubs

Officials/Clubs are expected to:

- Ensure equal opportunities for participation are available to all players, regardless of ability.
- Provide equipment and facilities appropriate to the age and maturity level of players.
- Remember that participation and enjoyment are the primary objectives of junior sport, and to play down the importance of awards and results.
- Make this Code of Conduct available to all players, coaches, parents and spectators.
- Ensure adequate supervision is maintained at all games and activities.
- Behave in a manner that sets a positive example for all participants.

This Code of Conduct applies to all participants involved within the MWFA and supports a safe, respectful and enjoyable football environment for everyone.

Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1	15 January 2026	MWFA Administrator	Full policy review and rewrite
2	1 April 2026	MWFA Director - Finance	Revision and review of rewrite

Policy Approved by the MWFA Board – 7th April 2026