



# AFL CANBERRA CODE OF CONDUCT Season 2006



- Set a good example and display utmost honesty and integrity in all dealings.
- Teach fair play and good sportsmanship
- Never place the value of winning above that of instilling the highest possible ideals and character
- Be reasonable in demands, setting goals and expectations of an attainable level.
- Maintain a current knowledge of the rules of the game.
- Teach and interpret the laws of the game to the players.
- Never ridicule players.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
- Encourage and create opportunities to develop individual as well as team skills.
- Ensure that all players understand the importance of regular attendance at training and a positive attitude at training, and that team selection throughout the season, including the finals, may be influenced by their training attendance and attitude.
- Ensure that injured players are given prompt and competent medical attention, and that doctor's orders are strictly adhered to.
- Endeavour to keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of players.
- Make no detrimental statements in public (radio, print or electronic media) in respect of the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or of AFL Canberra.
- Display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practice fair play.
- Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.
- Abide by the Laws of Australian Football and the AFL Canberra Competition Rules .

## PLAYERS

Play by the rules and within the "spirit of the game".

- Play by the rules – the rules of your club and the laws of the game
- Attend training sessions and matches at times advised by the Club. If unable to do so for a valid reason, players will inform the Club as soon as is practical.
- Act respectfully toward the officials and players of their own and opposing Clubs.
- Respect and follow the directions of coaching staff, match and club officials.
- Treat all players with respect, as you would want them to treat you.
- Act respectfully towards match officials at all times. Abusive language is unacceptable.
- Avoid individual or collective behaviour, which may reasonably be held by spectators to be offensive.
- Avoid all acts likely to incite spectators to violence or disorder.
- Make no detrimental statements in public (radio, print or electronic media) in respect of the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or of AFL Canberra.
- Abide by the Laws of Australian Football and the AFL Canberra Competition Rules.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of your own and opposing Clubs.
- Don't use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability. Apart from being inappropriate any such comments are now illegal and you let down your coach, teammates, club and family with such remarks.

## PARENTS & SUPPORTERS

- Remember that you are there for the participants to enjoy the game.
- Encourage participation, but don't force it
- Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning
- Never ridicule mistakes or losses- supporters are there to support not downgrade.  
Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires, administrators and spectators- physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Recognise all volunteers who give up their valuable time.
- Never publicly criticise umpires- raise personal concerns with club officials in private
- Don't use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability. Apart from being inappropriate any such comments are now illegal and you let down your coach, teammates, club and family with such remarks.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of your own and opposing Clubs.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Abusive language is unacceptable.

## ADMINISTRATORS

- Involve others in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to Australian Football.
- Create pathways for people to participate and develop through the sport not just as players but also as coaches, umpires and administrators.
- Ensure equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the ability level of the participants.
- Establish that qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and specific skill technique provide adequate supervision.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Assist all participants in Australian Football to know and understand the rules.
- Set an example.
- Make it clear that abusing people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
- Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
- Ensure on and off the field behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship.
- Ensure all parents, coaches, sponsors, administrators, officials, medical staff, and players, understand their responsibilities regarding fair play in sport.
- Abide by the Laws of Australian Football and the AFL Canberra Competition Rules

## OFFICIALS

- Display fairness and uniformity in applying the rules.
- Be honest in your assessment of situations.
- Be consistent, courteous in calling all infractions.
- Condemn the deliberate foul as being unsporting, and promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour.
- The health and safety of the players must be the most important reason to be weighed in your decision making process.
- Use common sense to ensure the 'spirit of the game' for players is not lost by being too pedantic when applying the rules.
- Be a positive Role Model in behaviour and personal appearance.
- Ensure you remain up to date with any rule changes and / or interpretation of rules as laid down by the AFL
- Seek continual self-improvement through study, performance appraisal, and regular updating of competencies.
- It is clear that umpires have a duty to stop the match if it appears that an opponent has incurred a serious injury, which places him in danger.
- Operate within all AFL Canberra competition rules.