

Greenisland FC - Code of Conduct for Coaches & Volunteers

All Coaches and Volunteers are to lead by good example and by adhering to the Codes of Conduct and Club's ethos we will provide better opportunities for members to develop physically, mentally and socially during their time at Greenisland FC.

As a Coach / Volunteer I agree to the following :

- I will strive to make football matches, training and social activities enjoyable and promote fair play at all times.
- I will be an excellent role model and will represent Greenisland Football Club to the best of my ability at all times. This includes not smoking, drinking alcohol, using foul/racial/sectarian language or taking drugs in the company of children/young people.
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person both within the Club and people I come into contact with on the Club's behalf.
- I will not engage in or permit bullying to go unchallenged.
- I will not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- I will maintain up to date coaching qualifications (IFA Level 1 as a minimum) / other qualifications as required for my role. This being required also to make Greenisland FC PL & EL Insurance operative.
- As a newly appointed Coach I confirm that that I hold a minimum of IFA Level 1 or will undertake to acquire one within 6 months and that my probationary period as a Coach cannot end until I am suitably qualified. This being required also to make Greenisland FC PL & EL Insurance operative.
- I understand that Greenisland FC will help Coaches fund IFA Level 1 Courses, normally at 50%, or as current budgets enable.
- I will maintain an update understanding of both Greenisland FC's rules and those of the Irish Football Association (see IFA Website and Safeguarding App) as they relate to working with children and vulnerable adults.
 - I will develop an appropriate working relationship with children/young people based on mutual trust and respect, following the Guidance provided by the Irish Football Association Safeguarding Dept.
 - I will always work in and encourage an open environment, avoiding private or unobserved situations.
 - I will always put the welfare of children/young people before winning or achieving goals.
 - I will maintain a safe and appropriate distance with players.
 - It will not have an intimate relationship with a child/young person.
 - I will ensure that if any form of manual/physical support is required, it is provided openly and according to agreed guidelines.
 - Parental/guardian views will be carefully considered.

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- o I will give enthusiastic and constructive feedback, encouraging achievements rather than using negative criticism.
- o I will recognise the developmental needs and capacity of children/young people, including those with a disability – avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will.
- o I will keep a written record or inform the Head Coach/Co-ordinator of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given.
- o I will never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.
- o I will protect myself from false accusations, by not spending excessive amounts of time alone with children/young people away from others, by never taking children/young people to my home and by not administering First Aid involving the removing of children's clothing unless in the presence of others

Practices I will avoid :

- Avoid spending any time alone with children/young people away from others.

Practices not to be permitted :

- Rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
- Share a room/tent/changing room/bath or shower with a child/young person.
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching.
- Allow children/young people to use foul, abusive, sectarian or racial language unchallenged
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child/young person, even in fun.
- Reduce a child/young person to tears as a form of control.
- Allow allegations made by a child/young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Undertake personal care for children/young people

Coaches/volunteers have the right to:

- Access to appropriate training and information on all aspects of leading/managing football for children/young people, particularly relating to safeguarding.
- Support in the reporting of suspected abuse.
- Fair and equitable treatment by the governing body/club.
- Be protected from abuse by children/young people, other adult members and parents / guardians.

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I understand any misdemeanours or breach of this code will be dealt with immediately and reported verbally and in writing to the Child Welfare Officer & Head Coach.

Persistent or serious breaches of the code will result in dismissal from the club/centre.