



Introduction.

Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaches need to be aware of why children want to play football. They want to learn new skills, make new friends, to be part of a group, experience challenges, excitement and action. Remember that winning at all costs does not meet the needs of players. Results are not necessarily a good indicator of coaching ability, the improvement level of players and their level of enjoyment. It is important our coaches follow an agreed code of good practice. It gives parents of all our players confidence our coaches are suitable to lead activities for children.

Players Code of Conduct

Players both under and over 18 not only represent themselves but their club as well. The player's behaviour on and off the field reflects on the club. Therefore, it is essential that players represent the values and identity of HHFC. One method of ensuring that players are aware of our ethos is to ensure they sign a player's code of conduct. The code of conduct highlights what is expected of players and the standards that they need to adhere to. It is not about setting down rules for players but merely informing them that our club has an ethos that has been agreed among the members.

Parents Code of Conduct

Parents/guardians play a vital role in promoting children's happiness and success in football. Parental expectations and behaviour have a significant bearing on children's attitude, behaviour and willingness to stay involved in football. Along with our Coaches it is important that parents / guardians need to be aware of why children play football. Children want to learn new skills, make new friends, be part of a group, to win and be successful, experience challenges, excitement and action. While winning is important, it must be remembered that winning at all costs does not meet the needs of players.





Coach Code of Conduct

Coaches/Mentors are critical to the establishment of good practices in football. Their attitude to the game directly informs the attitude of the players under their supervision. Coach/Mentors must speak and act in a manner consistent with this reality. As a Coach/Mentor I will:

- Complete Garda Vetting before commencing my role and I will complete the safeguarding 1 course.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each person and treat each person equally within the context of the sport.
- Not subscribe to the ethos of "win at all costs".
- Place the health, well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations.
- Abide by the rules of the game.
- Strive to develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual respect.
- Have particular regard for the code when working with young players in the game.
- Not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Ensure that the activities and strategies they direct and advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players involved.
- Clarify with the players (and where the players are under the age of 18, their parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from the Mentor.
- Co-operate with specialists within the game in the best interest of players.
- Be conversant with the laws of the game and the rules of any competition in which a team under his/her stewardship is participating.
- Encourage players to adhere to the club's code. Observe the highest standards of integrity and fair dealing.
- Promote a positive approach to the game e.g. fair play, honest endeavour and genuine teamwork.
- Not encourage or condone violations of the laws of the game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the game.
- Not encourage or condone the use of prohibited substances. Consistently display high standards of behaviour and comment.
- Use or tolerate the use of inappropriate language. Demonstrate due respect towards match officials.
- Accept the decisions of the match officials.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code of conduct, action may be taken by my club, league or national association.

Coach/Club Official: _____

Date: _____





Player Code of Conduct

As a player, I will:

- Make every honest effort to develop my sporting ability, to include fitness, skill, technique and tactical ability.
- Strive to set a positive example for younger players and supporters.
- Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and where possible help injured opponents.
- Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during each game.
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship, and time wasting.
- Refrain from using inappropriate language particularly to referees/officials and other players.
- Make every effort consistent with fair play and the laws of the game to help my team win.
- Abide by the laws, rules of the game and of any given competition, both in fact and in spirit.
- Accept victory and defeat with equanimity.
- Resist any temptation to consume or otherwise imbibe any banned substances.
- Treat opponents with respect at all times.
- Demonstrate due respect towards match officials.
- Accept the decisions of the match officials without protest.
- Avoid words or actions which may mislead a match official.
- Abide by the lawful instructions and directions of mentors and team officials.
- Act towards the mentors and officials of the opposing side in a respectful manner.
- Demonstrate due regard for the interest of supporters.
- Not act or speak so as to incite or encourage supporters to act in a way that may endanger the safety of anyone attending or participating in the game.
- Not either directly or indirectly place a bet on the outcome of any game in which I am involved.
- Have regard to the best interests of the game when publicly expressing an opinion on the game or on others involved in the game.
- In making public comments on a particular fixture or on the game in general, I will be mindful of upholding and promoting the good name of the game and others involved in it in the wider community.

Player Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____





Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Parents have a significant influence on

children's enjoyment and success in football. Children play football because they first and foremost love the game – it's FUN. Remember children's football is a time for them to develop and learn. We want them to win but not at all costs. Play your part by supporting your child, supporting the FAI's Player Development Plan and observe the Code of Conduct at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN.
- Applaud effort and good play.
- Always respect the match officials' decisions.
- Remain outside the field of play or within the Designated Spectators' Areas.
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do.
- Encourage your child, and others, or be quiet. Praise effort and performance, not results.
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and officials.
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning.
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.
- I must develop an appropriate supportive relationship with both the coach and my child based on mutual trust and respect.
- Support the coach's decisions and discuss any concerns directly with the coach.
- Watch and be familiar with the Coach/Parents Education Video on www.fai.ie.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code of Conduct, action may be taken by the club, league or National Association in line with the disciplinary process.

Parent: _____

Coach: _____

Date: _____

