

## SECTION 2

### Scottish Amateur Football Association Code of Conduct

*(Introduced at SAFA - AGM 17 June 2013)*

#### **Adult Players**

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Players tell us they want a referee for every match, yet match officials drop out because of the abuse and intimidation they receive on and off the pitch. Respect your referee today and help us ensure the continuing involvement of referees in the amateur game.

Play your part and observe SAFA's Code of Conduct for players at all times.

On and off the field, I will:

- Adhere to the Laws of The Game
- Display and promote high standards of behaviour
- Promote Fair Play
- Always respect the match officials' decisions

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, my league or SAFA:

- Be required to apologise to team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a warning from the coach
- Receive a written warning from the club committee
- Be required to attend an SAFA education course
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Not be selected for the team
- Be required to serve a suspension
- Be fined
- Be required to leave the club.
- The League/SAFA could impose a fine and/ or suspension on the club.

Remember:

- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Never engage in bullying, intimidation or harassment
- Speak to my team-mates, the opposition and my coach/manager with respect
- We all make mistakes.
- Win or lose with dignity. Shake hands with the opposing team and the referee at the end of every game.

## Coaches, Team Managers and Club Officials

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Behaviour on the side-lines is one of the biggest concerns in the game.

This includes the abuse of match officials and the unacceptable behaviour of spectators and coaches on the side-line. Respect your referee today and help us ensure the continuing involvement of referees in the amateur game.

Play your part and observe The Scottish Amateur Football Association's Code of Conduct in everything you do.

On and off the field, I will:

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match official's decision
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.

When working with players, I will:

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, league or SAFA:

- Required to meet with the club, or league
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Monitored by another club coach
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the League or SAFA
- Required to leave or be sacked by the club.