



**Eastside Rapids
Player Code of Conduct
January 2020**

CODES OF CONDUCT

A code of conduct for working with children is used to make clear:

- what behaviour is acceptable and unacceptable
- the standards of practise expected when working on behalf of the club
- the basis for challenging and improving practise

Everyone working with children on behalf of your club should sign up to your club's code of conduct. Members of the sports volunteers/staff must be clear about the expectations on them when involved in activities with children. Children and the parents/carers involved in activities should also be clear about what they can expect from the adults working with them. The club's code of conduct is most useful if shared publicly and widely.

The sports volunteers/staff, children and parents/carers support and understand codes of conduct best when they are involved in drawing them up and have the opportunity to discuss regularly what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

Concerns about breach of the code of conduct should be taken seriously and responded to in line with the complaints policy, performance management policy, disciplinary procedure and/or procedures for responding to concerns.

Code of conduct for parents/carers and children

Children and their parents/carers should also be clear about the expectations placed upon them.

It can be very beneficial to ask children as a group to discuss this in their group/team and to agree what the consequences of breaking these rules should be. This could be done at the start of a season, before a trip away from home, or as part of a welcome session at a residential camp.

Good spectator behaviour is important

Pressure on children and the bad behaviour of adults on the side-line can make children drop out of sport. Clubs should promote good side-line behaviour and make it clear that if children or officials are abused, action will be taken.

Further guidance and support is available from your Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer, Susan Thomson.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

The adults at your club should help to make sport safe and fun. This is your job too. This means respecting other players and the people who are there to help you to learn. You should do this by:

- Accepting what the coach or match officials ask you to do in the rules of the game
- Being prepared and on time for training and competition
- Playing to the best of your ability
- Respecting the coach and other helpers
- Never swearing at or insulting anyone, including other players
- Telling your parents or carers where you are, or if you are going to be late
- Following advice from sport doctors or physios to keep you safe and injury free
- Never bullying other players either yourself or in a group

Bullying can happen between children, peers or adults and children. It means things like:

- name calling
- belittling
- giving only negative feedback
- hitting
- shoving
- stealing
- damaging belongings
- spreading rumours
- making threats
- sending/posting nasty messages
- intentionally leaving people out

If you are worried about something don't keep it to yourself. Speak to an adult who you know and trust such as a parent, teacher, the Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer at your club, a guidance teacher, doctor or school nurse.

If there isn't anyone you can talk to, you can contact ChildLine in Scotland on 08001111 or www.childline.org.uk.

