

NORTHERN TASMANIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC. CODE OF CONDUCT



The following is an extract from the NTFA By-Laws in regard to the conduct of players, parents, supporters, administrators, officials and coaches in competitions conducted by the NTFA.

Attachment “A”

Code of Conduct

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- 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, for a valid reason to do so, 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, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or the NTFA.
- Abide by the By-Laws, (Rules & Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the NTFA.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs.
- Do not use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability as many such comments are politically incorrect and it is you, your coach, team-mates, Club and family that are let down with such remarks.

PARENTS & SUPPORTERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- 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, rather raise personal concerns with club officials in private
- Do not use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability as many such comments are politically incorrect and it is your coach, team-mates, Club and family that are let down with such remarks.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs.
- Do not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Abusive language is unacceptable.

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

- 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 at 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 skill.
- Ensure that all players understand the importance of regular attendance at training and 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 my players.
- 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 By-Laws, (Rules & Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the NTFA.
- Do not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs
- Make no detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or to the NTFA.

ADMINISTRATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- 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 a conduct example for others to follow.
- 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.
- Make no detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or the League.
- Do not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- 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 By-Laws, (Rules & Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the NTFA.

OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Display fairness and uniformity in applying the rules.
- Be honest in your assessment of situations.
- Be consistent and courteous in calling all infractions.
- Condemn deliberate fouls 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 during the 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.
- Do not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.

NORTHERN TASMANIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC. STATEMENT ON ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION



Electronic Communication

The NTFA recognises the growing reliance on information technology and the internet for communication within the Australian football community.

Electronic communication such as email, instant messaging, text message, phone messages, digital images, social (including Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, MySpace and blogs) are now all vital parts of the communications mix for community football leagues clubs and their constituents.

When used appropriately, these modes of communication offer effective and efficient ways to share information easily, often in fun and novel ways, which helps save time and effort for volunteers and administrators.

The NTFA encourages it's football community to optimise technology and use electronic forms of communication.

Inappropriate Use of Electronic Communication

Due to a number of factors, electronic communication can sometimes lead to anti-social, inappropriate, and illegal behaviour and activity. When such negative behavior or activity occurs within the context of a football community, the outcome can be devastating to a football league, club or individuals.

Inappropriate use of electronic communication within the football environment includes, but is not limited to, making or posting inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or the NTFA which is hurtful, discriminatory or offensive in nature.

The NTFA is concerned about the increasing number of incidents relating to the inappropriate use of electronic communication.

The NTFA By-Laws and Codes of Conduct (for Players, Coaches, Administrators, Officials, and Parents & Supporters), stipulate that inappropriate use of electronic communication will not be tolerated and can be subject to disciplinary action by the NTFA or Independent Tribunal.

Guidelines

Clubs or individuals who feel that they have been the victims of inappropriate electronic communication may report the matter in writing to the NTFA General Manager, along with any evidence (such as printouts) of the offending material.

The NTFA shall then investigate the matter and, upon investigation, has the power to either deal with the matter itself or refer the matter to the Conduct Committee.

Matters which are perceived to be more serious may be reported to police.