Stockton Sharks Junior Football Club takes Code of Conduct issues very seriously and as a result we will ensure that an appropriate action is taken to protect our Club’s reputations by players, spectators and officials. Working with the FFA National Code of Conduct the club has created our own Code of Conduct to which the committee feels all players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators should abide by.

The Football Federation Australia National Code of Conduct outlines behaviours that are expected of every person involved in football in the country, as well as identifying the types of behaviours that will not be tolerated. The FFA Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence in the honest and professional conduct of matches or in the integrity and good character of its participants.

The FFA Code of Ethics

This code is designed:

To emphasise the elements of enjoyment and satisfaction to junior player’s and coaches involved in soccer.

* To make adults including parents and coach’s aware that young player’s play soccer to satisfy themselves and not necessarily to satisfy adults or member’s of their own peer group.
* To improve the overall health and fitness of Australia’s youth by encouraging participation in soccer and making it attractive, safe and enjoyable for all to play.
* To remind administrator’s, coach’s, referee’s and parents that soccer must be administered, taught and provided, for the good of those young people who wish to play soccer, as ultimately “It is their game”.

1. APPLICATION AND SCOPE
   1. This Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Stockton by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence and opinion in the honest and professional conduct of matches or in the integrity and good character of its participants.
   2. This code:
      1. Forms part of the SJFC statutes and applies to the conduct and behaviour of club officials, players, coaches, managers, spectators and social members.
      2. Applies to all forms of organised football under SJFC’s jurisdiction, involving eleven-aside, modified football, futsal, indoor and beach football where Stockton Sharks Junior Football Club is being represented.
      3. Applies when using the name, club logo or club apparel within the community.
      4. Continues to apply to a member even after that member’s association, registration, employment or engagement has ended, if that member breached this code while a current member.

Young Players

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. As a player, you have a big part to play. That’s why Football Federation Australia is asking every player to follow a Respect Code of Conduct.

When playing football, I will:

• Always play to the best of my ability

• Play fairly – I won’t cheat, complain or waste time

•Respect my team - mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager

• Play by the rules, as directed by the referee

• Shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game

• Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me

• Talk to someone I trust or the club member protection officer if I’m unhappy about anything at my club.

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

• Be required to apologise to my team - mates, the other team and the referee

• Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee

• Be dropped or substituted

• Be suspended from training

• Be required to leave the club.

In addition:

My club or competition administrator may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct. The competition administrator could impose a fine, suspension or loss of competition points against my team or club.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers have a responsibility to support your child’s football activities in a positive way on and off the field. This includes being a role model and encouraging good behaviour in not only your own child but also their team mates, coach, manager and other spectators.

Supporting your child and their team is natural, but it needs to be done in a positive and supportive way in a harassment - free environment.

As a parent I will:

• Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.

• Encourage children to participate, do not force them.

• Focus on your child’s efforts and performance rather than whether they win or lose.

• Encourage children to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.

• Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.

• Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performance and skilful plays by all participants.

• Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.

• Respect officials’ decisions and teach children to do likewise.

• Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.

• Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

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

• Be required to apologise to other parents, the other team and the referee

• Receive a formal warning from the club committee

• Be suspended from attending matches

• My child’s registration may be cancelled

Senior Players

The following Code of Conduct has been included into the MyFootballClub senior player registration process

from 1 January 2012.

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 thousands of match officials drop out each season because of the abuse and intimidation they receive on and off the pitch.

Respect your referee today and you may just get one for every match this season.

Play your part and observe FFA’s Respect 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

• 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

• Remember we all make mistakes

• Win or lose with dignity. Shake hands with the opposing team and the referee at the end of every game.

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

Association/Zone or the Member Federation:

• 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 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

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaches Code of Ethics

* I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all players and ensure that everyone is treated equally.
* I will ensure that the players are involved in a positive environment, and that the game and training is a positive and enjoyable experience.

I will respect all player’s individuality and help them reach their own full potential.

I will be fair, considerate and honest with all players.

I will be professional and accept responsibility for my actions and encourage players to demonstrate the same qualities.

I will make a commitment to my team, and myself that I will continue to improve my own knowledge of the game through coach education and various training programs.

I will coach my player’s to play within the rules and in the spirit of the game of soccer.

I will avoid any physical contact with the players and should it be required it would be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player’s skill development.

I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards my players. Also be aware to any forms of abuse directed towards my players from other sources whilst they are in my care.

I will refrain from any form of harassment towards my players.

I will provide a safe environment for training and competition, by ensuring the equipment and facilities meet safety standards.

I will show concern and caution towards sick and injured players and allow for further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.

I will not engage in the use of crude, foul or abusive language that may be determined offensive or engage in any conduct detrimental to the image of the game when on or off the field.

I will refrain from arguing with the referee and/or assistant referees regarding decisions they make.

I will treat participants, officials and spectators with courtesy and respect.

I will always encourage my team to play within the laws of the game.

I will not consent to the use of any banned substance or drugs of dependence by my players.

I will act in a responsible manner and accept responsibility for my actions.

Spectator Code of Conduct

A spectator present at a match or otherwise involved in any activity staged or sanction by the club must:

* Respect the decisions of match officials and teach children to do the same
* Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake
* Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability race, colour, religion, language, politics, nationality or ethnic origin
* Not use violence in any form, whether it against other spectators, team officials, club officials, match officials or players
* No engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form, including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting
* Comply with any terms of entry of a venue, including bag inspections, prohibited and restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to cause injury or public nuisance
* Not, and must not attempt to, bring into a venue national or political flags or emblems (except for the recognised flags of any of the competing teams) or offensive or inappropriate banners, whether written in English or a foreign language
* Not throw missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators) and must not enter the field of play or it surrounds without lawful authority
* Conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than damages, the reputation and goodwill off Stockton Sharks Junior Football Club.

Any person who does not comply with this Spectator Code of Behaviour or who otherwise causes a disturbance may be removed from the venue and banned from attending matches dependant on the action taken by the disciplinary committee.