

TRUE SPORT – CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION - TRUE SPORT

True Sport is an initiative by the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries that supports local sporting clubs and associations to use eight values to share the benefits of sport and recreation to our whole community.

True Sport is the sport we want. Good sport can make a huge difference to our community, and it is important to help sports work together to share this message through using a common language that everyone understands.

True Sport's eight values should be part of everyday life both on and off the field. By embracing these values, teams, clubs, participants, and officials can work together to create fun, fair and safe environments for one and all to participate in sporting activities.

The eight True Sport Values are:

- **Have Fun**
- **Be Safe**
- **Give Back**
- **Be Healthy**
- **Play Fair**
- **Bring Your Best**
- **Show Respect**
- **Include All**

For more information on please visit <https://truesport.com.au/>



POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

The West Australian Football Commission strongly advises that all persons involved be issued with copies of the appropriate True Sport code of conduct. WA Football supports acts of sportsmanship (e.g. handshaking) between players, coaches, administrators, umpires etc.

The various True Sport Codes of Conduct have been divided up into the following sub-documents for ease of access and editing:

WAFC.POL.14:

- A – RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter
- B – True Sport Administrator & Volunteers Code of Conduct
- C – True Sport Coaches Code of Conduct
- D – True Sport Parent & Spectators Code of Conduct
- E – True Sport Players Code of Conduct
- F – True Sport Runners Code of Conduct
- G – True Sport Umpires Code of Conduct

Breaches of these Codes of Conduct can result in penalties at the discretion of the WAFC. This includes suspensions, loss of Premiership points and/or loss of E-Points.

RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter

POLICY BACKGROUND

Protecting and enhancing our Game Environment will always be a strategic focus for Community Football with ongoing enhancement of a Game Environment Filter (RED FLAG). This will assist in monitoring all football segments, and the standard of the environment and the spirit in which they are played. To this end an online filter has been developed whereby key football stakeholders are able to identify and bring to the attention of governing bodies any undesirable behaviours and actions that may breach any of the True Sport Codes of Conduct or Rule 1 “The Spirit of Junior Football”.

RULES

1. RED FLAG NOTIFICATION

The Red Flag notification is completed online with confidentiality assured within the process. Issues that are flagged that require official intervention will be overseen by the WAFC in consultation with the specific League Officials and WAFC District/Regional Staff. The Red Flag filter will apply to everyone involved in Football from coaches, spectators, and players to volunteers and club administrators.

2. RED FLAG ACCESS

Club Presidents, District Officials, Umpires and WAFC Game Development Staff will have authority to access the filter via a special password and link. Please contact the WAFC to secure your access.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.14B - Administrator & Volunteers Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.14C - Coaches Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.14D - Parent & Spectators Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.14E - Players Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.14F - Runner Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.14G - Umpires Code of Conduct

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RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL administrators and volunteers must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Remember that children participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.
2b	Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
3b	Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
3c	Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
3d	Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
4. #BEHEALTHY	
4a	Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
6b	Actively promote Positive Game Day Environments with Junior Football and the importance of E-Point structures to the game.
6c	Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
6d	Ensure promotion, well-being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
6e	Ensure positive player/umpire relationships are continually developed.
7. #INCLUDEALL	
7a	Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

POLICY BACKGROUND

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This True Sport Coaches Code of Conduct is to be signed and adhered to as part of the accreditation requirements of the AFL & WAFC. Coaches should be aware that, in addition to this Code, they may be obliged to sign a further Code of Conduct/Ethics with their Club and/or League or State Sports Association.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL coaches must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Be always supportive and refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in your care.
3b	Stress and monitor safety always.
3c	In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, you will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the return of injured, concussed, or ill players to training.
3d	Keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of your players.
4. #BEHEALTHLY	
4a	Be reasonable in the demands you make on the time commitments of the players in your care, having due consideration for their health and well-being.
4b	Have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of your players when designing practice schedule, practice activities and involvement in competition.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of your Club, District and League/Association.
5b	Display and always teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practise fair play.
5c	Reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents, and spectators.
7. #INCLUDEALL	
7a	Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of your involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices based on race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
7b	Avoid overplaying the talented players aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability. When responsible for players in the 5-18-year-old age group, strive to ensure that all players gain equal playing time.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – SPECTATORS & PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

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RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL parents and spectators must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Encourage children to participate in sport and have fun. Although remember this is about their ambition, and not yours.
2b	Remember that children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they mini adults. Let them have fun and enjoy their junior sport experience.
3. #GIVEBACK	
3a	Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and helpers. Put your hand up to volunteer yourself.
4. #BEHEALTHY	
4a	Encourage your child to play multiple sports – they do not need to specialise and play one sport all year round.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
5b	Encourage players to follow the rules and the umpire's decisions.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
6b	Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by both teams.
6c	If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public.
6d	Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
6e	Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
6f	Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not swearing, using derogatory language, harassing players, coaches, umpires or volunteers.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

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RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL players must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Play for the “fun of it” and not just to please parents and coaches.
3. #PLAYFAIR	
3a	Play by the rules.
3b	Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team, opponent, or the other team.
3c	Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.
4. #BRINGYOURBEST	
4a	Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team’s performance will benefit so will you.
5. #SHOWRESPECT	
5a	Never argue with an umpire or an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach or teacher after the game.
5b	Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
5c	Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another teammate or player.
5d	Avoid using derogatory language or swearing.
6. #INCLUDEALL	
6a	Cooperate with and support your coach, teammates, and opponents. Without them there would no competition.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – RUNNER CODE OF CONDUCT

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RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL runners must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #BESAFE	
2a	The runner must be clearly identified.
2b	The runner's name must be entered on team sheets.
3. #GIVEBACK	
3a	The runner should be an adult.
4. #SHOWRESPECT	
4a	No abusive language or swearing.
4b	Always support the decision of the umpires and never question decisions.
4c	Deliver message and leave the ground immediately. Your role is not to coach or direct players. Do not remain on the ground. The game is for the kids, not you.
5. WATER CARRIERS	
5a	Water carriers are <u>not</u> permitted in Junior Community Football in Western Australia unless explicitly permitted by WAFC Community Football staff in circumstances of extreme heat.
5b	If WAFC staff permit water carriers, items 1a to 4b are applicable and as per 4c, water carriers must deliver water then immediately leave the ground. The water carriers shall be identified with a fluorescent vest or appropriate shirt that is approved by the umpires prior to the game starting and must have their names included on the team sheets.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – UMPIRES CODE OF CONDUCT

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RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL umpires must understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football' .
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Ensure that the “spirit of the game” for children is not lost by using common sense and not over emphasizing errors.
2b	Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
3b	Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
4. #PLAYFAIR	
4a	Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour. Actions speak louder than words.
5. #BRINGYOURBEST	
5a	Compliment all participants on their efforts.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all infractions.
6b	Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
6c	Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
AFL Laws of Australian Football