

Code of Ethics for Arthur Griffith Park Football Club

Guiding Principles

In alignment with the FAI Code of Ethics and good conduct, Arthur Griffith Park FC is committed to:

- Treating all children equitably and fairly, regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social or ethnic background, or political beliefs.
- Conducting all activities in a safe, positive, and encouraging environment.
- Prioritizing the needs of the child over winning through a child-centered approach.
- Emphasizing an ethos of Fair Play at all times.
- Committing to enhancing the skills of all team leaders.
- Operating in accordance with the club constitution, adapting and changing as necessary for the benefit of all children.

Managers Code

As a coach of underage teams, you have a special duty of care and must:

- Act as a guardian and role model, earning respect from young players.
- Lead by example and generously praise when deserved.
- Avoid ridiculing or shouting at players for mistakes or losses.
- Teach respect for the laws of the game and ensure all players participate in matches.
- Prioritize fun, enjoyment, and skill development over structured competition.
- Develop respect for opponents, opposing coaches, and referees' judgments.
- Insist on fair and disciplined play, removing players who engage in foul play.
- Set realistic goals and encourage the development of basic skills and sportsmanship.
- Create a safe and enjoyable training and playing environment.
- Stay informed on sound coaching principles and the growth and development of young people.
- Make it clear that bullying, whether verbal or physical, is not tolerated.
- Always thank match officials and discuss any necessary clarifications respectfully after the game.

Players Code

Players are encouraged to:

- Play for enjoyment, not just to please parents or coaches.
- Abide by the laws of the game and accept the referee's decisions.
- Maintain control and never lose their temper.
- Play for themselves and their team, benefiting both personal and team performance.
- Show good sportsmanship at all times.
- Respect opponents and treat all players as they would like to be treated.
- Avoid bullying or taking advantage of any player.
- Cooperate with coaches, teammates, and opponents.
- Focus on having fun, improving skills, and feeling good.
- Applaud and thank opponents and referees at the end of each match.
- Remember their duty of care to opponents, tackling hard but fairly, without intent to injure.
- Win with humility and lose with dignity.

Parents Code

Parents should remember:

- Young people play soccer for their enjoyment, not theirs.
- Encourage children to play by the laws of the game.
- Teach that honest effort is as important as winning, accepting game results without disappointment.
- Support skill improvement and good sportsmanship.
- Set a good example by applauding good play on both sides.
- Avoid ridiculing, humiliating, or shouting at young players for mistakes or losses.
- Do not emphasize winning at all costs.
- Do not force an unwilling child to play; encourage them to participate when ready.
- Support efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from soccer.
- As spectators, refrain from using profane language or harassing referees, coaches, or players.
- Do not publicly question the referee's judgment or honesty.
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer referees and coaches, who give their time to provide recreational activities for young people.
- Encourage mutual respect for teammates and opponents in their children.
- Refrain from interfering with a coach's squad selection, tactics, or any decisions related to matches. Respect the coaches' expertise and authority in making decisions that are in the best interest of the team.

Parents Match Day Guide

- Stand at least one meter from the touchline to allow space for quick throw-ins and clear views for managers and referees.
- Avoid standing behind the goal or on the goal line.
- Do not enter the pitch unless summoned by a manager or coach.
- Refrain from coaching players during a match to prevent confusion.
- Share any ideas or tactics with the coaches privately.
- Report any breaches of the AGP FC Code of Ethics & Conduct to the Committee.

Non-compliance

Non-compliance with this Code of Ethics may result in suspension or expulsion from the club.

Complaints Procedure

Arthur Griffith Park FC takes all breaches of its Code of Ethics seriously and provides a structured process for addressing concerns.

1. Reporting a Breach

If you witness or are made aware of a breach of the club's Code of Ethics, you are encouraged to report the matter directly to the Club Committee.

2. Official Communication Channel

All complaints must be submitted via our official email address:

agpfc2010@gmail.com

This ensures transparency, accountability, and a documented trail for all issues raised.

3. Investigation & Action

- Upon receipt of a complaint, the Committee will review the matter confidentially and take appropriate action in line with club policies and procedures.
- This may involve meeting with relevant parties, reviewing evidence, and taking corrective action if needed.
- Sanctions may include a warning, temporary suspension, or expulsion from the club, depending on the severity of the breach.

4. Social Media Disclaimer

The club will **not** engage in any complaints, disputes, or commentary via social media platforms. Social media is **not** an appropriate or acceptable channel for addressing grievances. Any complaints made via social media will be disregarded.

We encourage all members to follow the proper procedure to maintain the integrity, respect, and positive culture of Arthur Griffith Park FC.