



GHFC Code of Conduct Policy

1. Purpose

The GHFC Code of Conduct aims to promote the reputation of Gregory Hills FC and football in Australia and the local community by setting a standard for behaviour, integrity, and professionalism among all participants and stakeholders.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all individual members of Gregory Hills FC, including players, coaches, managers, assistant coaches, and volunteers, both at home games, when visiting other clubs or within the public eye whilst representing Gregory Hills FC. It also includes all formats of football played under the club's banner, including official matches, training sessions, and club events.

This Code of Conduct is supplementary to the broader FFA Code of Conduct, and it is designed to enhance local adherence to the national standards.

3. General Code of Conduct

3.1 Upholding Club and Sport Integrity

3.1.1 Club Reputation

Members are expected to uphold the integrity of Gregory Hills FC and must avoid actions that bring the club or the sport of football into disrepute.

3.1.2 Prohibited Behaviour

Members will be in breach of this Code if they:

- Engage in discriminatory, harassing, or offensive behaviour.
- Use provocative or abusive language or gestures.
- Incite violence or aggression towards others, including Match Officials.
- Commit forgery, corruption, or any act that damages the reputation of the club or sport.
- Misuse their position for personal gain or otherwise breach the trust of the club.

3.1.3 Supporter and Spectator Conduct

The club holds responsibility for the conduct of its supporters. Any unruly or inappropriate behaviour by spectators will be treated as a breach of this Code and handled accordingly.



3.2 Supporter Responsibility and Accountability

3.2.1 Spectator Behaviour

Gregory Hills FC expects all spectators to adhere to the Spectator Code of Behaviour. Host and guest clubs are both responsible for maintaining appropriate conduct among their supporters.

3.2.2 Violations by Spectators

Should supporters engage in inappropriate behavior, the club may implement disciplinary action, including suspension from attending future matches.

3.3 Prohibition of Betting and Corruption

3.3.1 Betting & Corruption

Members must not engage in any betting, match-fixing, or corrupt activities related to Gregory Hills FC matches. This includes:

- Any form of betting on match outcomes.
- Offering or accepting bribes to influence match results.
- Providing confidential club or player information for any form of personal gain.

3.3.2 Reporting

Members must report any attempt to solicit a bribe or engage in corrupt activities to club officials immediately.

3.4 Communication and Media Statements

3.4.1 Public Comments

Members are encouraged to maintain respectful communication and are prohibited from making derogatory or disparaging statements about:

- Other teams, officials, or governing bodies.
- Ongoing investigations or disciplinary matters.

3.4.2 Media Consent

Members must seek approval before making public statements on behalf of Gregory Hills FC or referencing FFA's properties, such as the A-League or national teams.

4. GHFC Member Code of Conduct

4.1 Respectful Behavior

1. All members are expected to conduct themselves respectfully in all public areas, especially while representing Gregory Hills FC.



4.2 Abuse and Violence

1. Any member, including players, coaches, managers, or their parents/guardians, found to be abusive or violent toward others will face disciplinary action following an investigation.

4.3 Coaching or Coaching Staff Conduct

1. Abuse toward Players:

- 1.1 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation. An automatic 3-match ban will apply for first offences involving youth players (under 18).
- 1.2 2nd Offence: Stand down as coach or coaching staff and de-register after investigation.

2. Abuse toward Referees:

- 2.1 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation. An automatic 3-match ban will apply for first offences involving youth players (under 18).
- 2.2 2nd Offence: Stand down as coach or coaching staff and de-register after investigation.

4.4 Player Conduct

1. Abuse toward Referees:

- 1.1 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation.
- 1.2 2nd Offence: Stand down as player and de-register after investigation. Youth players will receive a 3-match ban for a second offence, with one final chance. Club Directors and youth guardians will need to ensure the player is taught appropriate respectful conduct. Youth players must write a formal apology.
- 1.3 3rd Offence (Youth): Stand down as player and de-register after investigation.

2. Abuse toward Coaches or Staff or Other Members:

- 2.1 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation.
- 2.2 2nd Offence: Stand down as player and de-register after investigation. Youth players will receive a 3-match ban for a second offence, with one final chance. Club Directors and youth guardians will need to ensure the player is taught appropriate respectful conduct. Youth players must write a formal apology.
- 2.3 3rd Offence (Youth): Stand down as player and de-register after investigation.

3. Abuse toward Other Players:

- 3.1 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation.
- 3.2 2nd Offence: Stand down as player and de-register after investigation. Youth players will receive a 3-match ban for a second offence, with one final chance. Club Directors and youth guardians will need to ensure the player is taught appropriate respectful conduct. Youth players must write a formal apology.
- 3.3 3rd Offence (Youth): Stand down as player and de-register after investigation.



4.5 Violent Conduct

1. Red Cards:

- 1.1** Any player receiving a red card for violent behavior will have their punishment doubled by Gregory Hills FC, in addition to penalties imposed by the governing body.

2. Assaults:

- 2.1** Immediate de-registration from the club will occur for any member assaulting a referee or another player after an investigation. Incident will be reported to Law enforcement authorities.

4.6 Member-on-Member Abuse

1. Abuse:

- 1.1** 1st Offence: Written warning after investigation, with immediate removal from the field.
- 1.2** 2nd Offence: Stand down as member and de-register after investigation. Junior members of the abusive member may also be de-registered.

4.7 Public Disrepute

1. Members found to be abusive toward the club, its Directors, or other members in public or on social media will face immediate standing down and de-registration after investigation.

4.8 Reporting Issues

1. Concerns regarding team issues should first be raised with the appropriate Vice President or Secretary. If unresolved, escalation to the President is encouraged.

4.9 Consequences

1. All violations of this Code of Conduct will be investigated thoroughly.
2. Disciplinary actions will be implemented based on the severity and frequency of the offenses.
3. Repeat offenders may face more severe consequences, including potential de-registration from the club.

4.10 Commitment to Positive Conduct

1. Gregory Hills FC is committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment.
2. All members are encouraged to uphold the values of respect, integrity, and sportsmanship in every interaction, ensuring a positive experience for everyone involved.



5. Team Duty Participation & Community Contribution

At GHFC, we believe that success both on and off the field depends on the collective efforts of every member, parent, and guardian. As part of our Members Code of Conduct, we require that **all members** actively contribute to the essential team duties that keep our club running smoothly each week.

These duties include:

1. **Field Setup** (before games and training)
2. **Field Pack-up** (after games and training)
3. **Canteen Assistance**
4. **Ground Official Roles**

5.1 Why It's Important

- **Shared Responsibility:** Our club operates as a community, not a service. We rely on everyone pitching in to create a positive, fair, and well-organised environment.
- **Support for Players:** When all families participate, we can focus resources on improving player experiences and developing the club.
- **Fairness:** Volunteering ensures that duties are equally distributed, preventing burnout among a few individuals.

5.2 Mandatory Expectation

By registering with our club, members agree that participation in team duties is **mandatory**. Opting out of duties is not permitted unless there are exceptional, pre-approved circumstances.

Your help is not just appreciated—it is **essential** to the smooth operation and continued success of the club.

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