



## **RESPECT: CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **SEASON 2026/2027**

#### **Aim**

Promote professionalism and an enjoyable match day experience through respect and sporting cooperation, enhancing the overall game experience.

#### **Key Areas**

- Club Management
- Players
- Dugout Personnel
- Match Officials
- League Management Officers
- Volunteers
- Spectators

#### **Desired Characteristics**

- Self-Respect
- Respect for others
- Discipline
- Integrity
- Leading by Example
- Self-Control
- Sportsmanship

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#### **Social Media Use**

**Definition:** Social media includes platforms like Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, Snapchat, and club forums.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Clubs, officials, players, and management are accountable for their posts, football-related or not.
- **Risks:** Cyberbullying, causing offense, exposure to inappropriate content.

#### **Principles:**

1. Be honest about your identity.
2. Clarify opinions as personal.
3. Communicate with respect and humility.
4. Avoid discriminatory material.
5. Share only public information.
6. Remember that online posts are permanent.

**Sanctions:** Breaches reported to relevant authorities for action.

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## **Specific Responsibilities**

### **Club Chair, Directors, and Committee Members:**

- Establish and enforce a Club Code of Conduct.
- Monitor technical area behaviour.
- Avoid public criticism of the League, match officials, or opponents.

### **Club Secretary:**

- Ensure visitors feel welcome and provide hospitality.
- Confirm match details and ensure facilities are adequate.
- Manage game administration and payments to match officials.
- Maintain courteous interactions and refrain from public criticism.

### **Public Address Operators:**

- Avoid disparaging comments about players or officials.

### **Players:**

- Serve as role models, respecting decisions and showing sportsmanship.
- Accept hospitality and avoid public criticism.

### **Captains:**

- Assist in managing teammates and uphold club values.

### **Technical Area Personnel:**

- Managers responsible for behaviour in the technical area.
- Promote fair play and respect for officials.
- Maintain high self-discipline and avoid criticism.

### **Match Officials:**

- Confirm game details and foster courteous interactions.

- Manage the game effectively and report misconduct.
  - Accept hospitality and avoid public criticism.
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### **Seasonal Requirements**

- Submit a list of club directors and technical area personnel.
- Ensure only authorized personnel enter the technical area.
- Submit Matchday Respect Report Forms within 3 days of the match.
- Encourage players and technical personnel to support the League Code of Conduct.

### **Improvement Goals**

- Reduce dissent cautions (C2) and dismissals (S6).
- Monitor and improve technical area behaviour.

### **Rewards and Sanctions**

- **Rewards:** Respect Awards every three months and at season's end.
- **Sanctions:** Disciplinary actions for clubs with persistent issues, potentially leading to exclusion from the competition.

### **Action Plan**

- Implement rewards for good conduct.
- Ensure timely submission of reports and adherence to the Code of Conduct.
- Engage with clubs to resolve disciplinary issues and support development.

**Note:** Club Chairs must ensure team management understands the League "Cooling off" protocol and technical area dismissals procedures.