Code of Conduct

**Codes of Conduct**

Macleod JFC is a local junior Australian Rules football club that is managed by the local community for the community. Adults play an essential role, whether as parents, coaches, administrators or officials, in supporting junior Australian Rules football.

Children learn best by example. Therefore, the Macleod Junior Football Club codes of conduct provide clear behavioural guidelines that will promote a quality environment in which both the game, participants and the club can flourish.

The following codes of conduct apply for all Macleod JFC programs.

**Code of conduct – Parents and spectators**

* Encourage children to participate regardless of ability
* Encourage participants to always play by the rules
* Never ridicule mistakes or losses
* Remember that participants learn best by example. Applaud good play by all teams
* Never publicly disagree with officials. If you disagree, raise the issue privately through appropriate channels
* Actively discourage racial abuse
* Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches
* Remember that participants play for fun and are not miniature professionals
* Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players
* Encourage players to accept the umpire’s decisions
* Demonstrate exemplary behaviour by not using foul language, or harassing players, coaches or officials

**Code of conduct – Coaches and Teachers**

* Be reasonable in your demands: consider young players’ time, energy and enthusiasm levels
* Avoid over-playing the talented players. The just ‘average’ players’ need and deserve equal time. Keep winning in perspective: maximise participation because children participate for fun and enjoyment
* Stress safety: ensure that equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate for age and ability levels
* Consider maturity levels: match up practice schedules, activities and degree of competition
* Develop team respect: for opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches
* Recognise the importance of injury: seek and follow the physician’s advice concerning injured players
* Keep informed: with sound principles of coaching and skill development, and development of children
* Teach sporting behaviour: create opportunities to teach appropriate sports behaviour as well as basic skills
* Get priorities right: ensure skill learning and appropriate behaviour are the priority over competition
* Teach fair play: help children understand the responsibilities and implications of their freedom to choose between fair and unfair play

**Code of Conduct – Player Behaviour**

* Play within the spirit of the game and by the rules of the competition.
* Never argue with an official. If you have an issue, have your captain approach the official during a break or after the competition.
* Verbal abuse of officials or other players, and deliberate distraction or provocation of an opponent are not permitted.
* Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
* Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents.
* Show respect to all players regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

**Macleod Junior Football Club Family Liaison Officer**

Macleod JFC promotes a strong family fun environment and how we deal with conflict in an unprejudiced manner is highly valued by our club. As a result, to best mediate areas of concerns & disputes in a private and fair minded environment the club has a dedicated a **Family Liaison Officer** that will be open to work alongside players, parents, coaches and community members to best facilitate their concerns.