



North Lakes Soccer Club Inc

Coaches Code Of Conduct

Introduction

North Lakes Soccer Club Inc (the 'Club') aims to foster, develop and encourage the playing of soccer for the benefit of the local community with a primary emphasis on junior participation in an atmosphere of sportsmanship and friendly competition between all concerned. Our desire is to inspire youthful participation with the fundamental principles of teamwork and fair play, whilst retaining a focus on fun. The Club currently plays all junior teams within in the QCSA League and abides by both the spirit and law of that association.

The Club acknowledges that our coaches play a very important and major part in the fulfilment of our aims, representing the 'face' of the Club on a daily basis. The Club respects the considerable time and effort required in taking on a coaching position and aims to provide support and direction to coaching staff. The Coaches Code of Conduct has been established to assist coaches by providing general guidelines and specifically addressing:

- What coaches can expect from the Club;
- The minimum expectations of the Club in respect to a coach.

Section 1 - What coaches can expect from the Club

- Provision of all equipment required to undertake training sessions and participate in matches (to be returned to the Club at the end of the season).
- General support and guidance at all times (subject to adherence to the minimum expectations of the Club as set out in Section 2).
- Open communication with the Club Committee at all times and a minimum of two coaches 'open forum' meetings per season with the full Club Committee (start of season & end of season).
- Support (if requested) with resolution of any team related issues. Note: In the first instance, the Club will always attempt to support the position of the coach (subject to adherence to the minimum expectations of the Club as set out in Section 2).
- With respect to any potential issues, the Club will not consider verbal or hearsay comment from players or parents and will only investigate formal written complaints, to be reviewed by the entire Club Committee and, if required, dealt with in the appropriate disciplinary manner.
- The Club fully respects the rights of individual coaches to undertake training and match play strategies as they see fit and will not direct or interfere with such strategies during the course of the season (subject to adherence to the minimum expectations of the Club as set out in Section 2).
- The Club will, in the first instance, create teams one player short of the maximum number permitted, to ensure ease of squad rotation (Under 7s & Under 8s = 8 players: Under 9s & above = 14 players). Coaches (at their own discretion) may add/accept an additional player (subject to adherence to the minimum expectations of the Club as set out in Section 2).

Section 2 – Minimum expectations of the Club in respect to a coach

General expectations (derived from the Australian Sports Commission guidelines):

- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach your players to do the same.
- Avoid overplaying the most talented players: All participants need and deserve equal time.
- Remember that junior players participate for pleasure, and winning is only part of the fun.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved within the game including opponents, coaches, officials and parents. Encourage the players to do the same.
- Any physical contact with a junior player should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.

Specific Expectations (as determined by the Club):

- Read and understand the Clubs objectives, as stated in Section 3.1 of the Rules Of Incorporation.
- During the course of the season the Club communicates all relevant information regarding training, matches and galas to the coaches, in the first instance. Be prepared to openly communicate with parents at all times and forward appropriate information e-mails from the Club to the respective members of your team.
- Teams Under 13 and above (inclusive) may (in the coaches discretion) operate on the basis of limited competition for match team places. There is no minimum playing time stipulation, however, coaches must still respect the rights of all squad members in respect to general expectations above and QCSA guidelines.
- Teams Under 12 and below (inclusive) are to be managed on the principle of an equal opportunity basis for all members of the squad. In practice, a minimum of 15 minutes playing time per match is expected for each squad player over the course of a season (subject to the concession below).
- In the event that a coach deems a player should not play a specific match (due to issues such as possible injury, non attendance at training or lack of effort etc) this should be communicated in advance of the match to the parents of the player concerned, with a reasonable explanation of the decision.
- In event that squad injuries dictate the use of a 'cover' player from another team within the Club, such players are to be used primarily as substitutes only, with priority given to existing squad players.
- All coaches must hold (or be in the active process of applying for) a Blue Card and have read and signed this Code of Conduct prior to being accepted for the position.

I hereby acknowledge this Code of Conduct, as adopted by the North Lakes Soccer Club Inc, and agree to abide by the minimum expectations of the Club as detailed in Section 2.

Coach's Signature

Coach's Name

Date

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