

## Child Safe Environment

### *Policy*

#### **Purpose**

The following policy has been developed to provide guidance in relation to a Child Safe Environment within the Brighton Districts and Old Scholars Football Club (BDOS).

#### **Context**

A fun and safe junior sports club promotes and enforces appropriate codes of behaviour. The core principles of codes of behaviour are that junior sport should be fun, safe, fair and 'belong' to the juniors.

These codes of behaviour identify a series of key principles on which players, parents, coaches, administrators and spectators should base their sporting involvement. If adopted, the codes will ensure that young people develop good sporting behaviour and have an enjoyable experience of sport, which will encourage them to remain involved throughout their lives.

#### **Players**

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an umpire or official.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team - your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like 'good luck' and 'good game')
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Play fair – no verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players (including vilification) or deliberately distracting or provoking and opponent.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Not use social media to bully, intimidate, or threaten others including threats directed to anyone connected to SANFL including opposition teams
- Not use social media including PCFC sites to defame the reputation of others, Associations, any individuals or groups of individuals, or any organization or business entity.

#### **Parents and Spectators**

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or not winning.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators.

- Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams. Congratulate all participants, regardless of the game's outcome.
- Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Support policy and practices (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol and to child protection issues.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Not use social media to bully, intimidate, or threaten others including threats directed to anyone connected to SANFL including opposition teams
- Not use social media including PCFC sites to defame the reputation of others, Associations, any individuals or groups of individuals, or any organization or business entity.

### **Coaches**

- Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Give young people the chance to try out different playing positions.
- Create opportunities for participants to learn appropriate sports behaviour as well as basic skills.
- Keep up to date with the coaching practices and qualifications and the principles of physical growth and development. • Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Help young people understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- Encourage young people to participate in administration, coaching and umpiring as well as playing.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport and teach your players to do the same.
- Relate to officials in a courteous and polite way.
- Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Implement policy and practices (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol
- Listen to your players and ensure that the time they spend with you is a positive experience.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Not use social media to bully, intimidate, or threaten others including threats directed to anyone connected to SANFL including opposition teams
- Not use social media including PCFC sites to defame the reputation of others, Associations, any individuals or groups of individuals, or any organization or business entity.

### **Administrators**

- Involve young people in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the activity.
- Give all young people equal opportunities to participate.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player, e.g. as an umpire, administrator etc.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players and ensure volunteers are adequately trained.
- Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.
- Ensure that everyone emphasises fair play, not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, parents, coaches and players and encourage them to follow it.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.

- Maximise child safety by conducting volunteer screening and implementing child protection strategies.
- Implement policy and practices (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol
- Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Listen to your players and involve them in decisions, leadership, planning and evaluation related to the club.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Not use social media to bully, intimidate, or threaten others including threats directed to anyone connected to SANFL including opposition teams
- Not use social media including PCFC sites to defame the reputation of others, Associations, any individuals or groups of individuals, or any organization or business entity.

## Reference

Department of Human Services (DHS)

<https://dhs.sa.gov.au/services/community-and-family-services/child-safe-environments/about-child-safe-environments>

Child Safe Environments – 7 Principles of Good Practice.

[https://dhs.sa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/82658/cse-principles-of-good-practice-2019-dhs-update.pdf](https://dhs.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/82658/cse-principles-of-good-practice-2019-dhs-update.pdf)

## POLICY REVIEW

This Policy is subject to regular review at a maximum interval of two (2) years. For the purposes of carrying out and giving effect to this policy, the Treasurer or President may from time to time prepare, adopt or vary, and otherwise issue to members of BDOS, guidelines and directions relating to any aspect of this policy

### Document Version Control

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