

Everyone has a role to play in ensuring that our game is free from bullying, verbal, and physical abuse; and that it is played in a competitive and fair manner.

All participants have a responsibility to promote respectful and positive behaviour. As leaders and role models, Match Officials must demonstrate the same standard of behaviour that they expect from players, coaches, and team officials.

It is essential that, as a Match Official, you play your part, and follow this **Code of Conduct** always.



THE CODE

1. Act impartially and honestly always.
2. Abide by the Constitution (Rules & Regulations) and the Competition Rules of the FFA and Football SA.
3. Apply the Laws of the Game in a fair and consistent manner.
4. Communicate calmly, concisely, and respectfully to all players and team officials.
5. Engage with the team captain to ensure the successful management of the game.
6. Respond clearly, respectfully, and confidently to any appropriate approach by a team captain.
7. Make no physical contact with players or team officials.
8. Do not tolerate offensive, insulting, or abusive language or bad behaviour from players, team officials or spectators. If it occurs take appropriate steps to deal with such behaviour.
9. Do not tolerate any acts of violence, aggression and unsporting behaviour. If it occurs take appropriate steps to deal with such behaviour.

10. Be supportive and respectful to all other Match Officials on and off the field.
11. Be respectful and courteous to everyone involved in the game.
12. Ensure that your fitness levels are appropriate for your level of officiating.
13. Complete and submit all required match day paperwork, including post-match reports, to the governing body in the required timeframes.
14. Make no **detrimental statements in public** (internet social media, print, radio) in respect of the performance of any other Match Officials or player or any decisions of the Club, Association, Football SA or FFA.
15. Follow the "Play by the Rules" guidelines at www.playbytherules.net.au

I understand that I must abide by this Code of Conduct and that a breach of this Code of Conduct may incur the following sanctions/requirements:

1. Be required to apologise to any person or persons I have offended.
2. Receive counselling by the State Referee Manager or appointed person.
3. Be reprimanded, fined, and/or suspended by the Football SA.
4. Have my Referee Registration suspended.
5. Face a disciplinary hearing of the local association and/or Football SA and receive sanctions imposed by, and in accordance with the competition rules and regulations and FFA Disciplinary Regulations.

