

DE BEERS AFC – CODE OF CONDUCT

The De Beers AFC Committee has implemented this code of conduct for application throughout all aspects of club activity. We want all participants to make De Beers proud. All players, spectators, coaches and parents are requested to abide by the spirit and letter of this code, and any parties not abiding by it, may be asked to leave the club. Please help the committee create a great club atmosphere...! This code consists of both rules and suggestions for suitable behaviour. Please study and implement them.

GENERAL

- **All participants shall:**
 - Be properly registered with De Beers AFC
 - Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants (ourselves, each other, referees & other officials, opponents, parents and spectators), regardless of gender, race, creed, ability, background, financial means or religion.
 - Respect the authority of club management, employees and the club committee members
 - Assist wherever possible in the smooth operating of the club's activities and other participants' enjoyment of the club
 - Arrive on time for training and matches
 - Arrive with the correct kit for training and matches (boots, shin-pads)
 - Communicate immediately with your coach/ manager if you think you may be late for or miss a game or practice
 - Ensure that winning becomes a consequence of enjoyment and not the game objective.
- **We are a club based on:**
 - Enjoyment for all.
 - Honesty, integrity, strong morals.
 - Fair play, no dirty play.
 - Inclusion of / participation by all, as far as possible.
 - Actively support and create a sporting environment which is free of inappropriate drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
 - Displaying a positive attitude in all respects (practice, games, general conduct)
 - Concern and welfare for the sick and injured
 - If you make a commitment, stick to it.
- **We as club members will not participate in or tolerate:**
 - Bad language
 - Intoxication
 - Drugs
 - Physical and verbal abuse
 - Harassment (incl sexual) of any form
 - Disrespect for others.

PLAYERS

- Always warm up and cool down properly.
- Play for fun and enjoyment - not just to please your parents and/or coach.
- Learn and play by the rules.
- Do not argue with match officials and/or the coach – rather use your energies for playing better football.

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- Thank officials and opponents after competing.
- Recognize and applaud all good play.
- Be a good sport - win with modesty, lose with dignity.
- Co-operate with coaches, team-mates and opponents
- After training and playing games, think about how to improve your skills
- Inform the coach of any injury as soon as possible
- Inform the coach if you need to leave the grounds early
- Players are expected to behave well on and off the field. Rudeness towards team members, other teams and officials will not be tolerated.
- Players must not behave in an unsportsmanlike manner. Actions speak louder than words.

PARENTS

- Remember that children play for their fun, not yours!
- Encourage children to play, do not force them. Encourage, encourage, encourage even when your child is having a disastrous day
- Praise your child's efforts, whether they win or lose.
- Applaud all good play.
- Never ridicule a child for losing or making a mistake.
- Learn the rules to better understand what you are watching and commenting on.
- Show your appreciation to all officials, coaches and helpers.
- Condemn the use of violence, profane language and any form of abuse.
- Think of how you can best help the coach and/or the club.
- A good spirit around the field is always welcomed but please do not make rude remarks and get upset next to the field, as this rubs off on the children.
- Parents may not interfere with any decisions made by the match officials.
- If you are unhappy with something during a game or practice, please wait until the end and raise it with the coach at that time.
- Each age group has a number of coaches who have volunteered to coach our children. Leave the coaching to the coaches; please allow them to fulfill their portfolios uninterrupted.
- Should you wish to assist please discuss it with the respective coach prior to stepping in.
- Should your child not be able to attend any scheduled event, phone or email your coach well ahead of the event. Team selection will be based on children who attend training on a regular basis.
- Team selection is the responsibility of the coaches and as a parent you may not always agree with the team selection. Please bear in mind that the coaches are doing their best in order to ensure that all our children get the best opportunity they can to play.
- Please ensure that you have your child present at the match venue at least 30 minutes before the match kick-off time. As with any sporting activity there is preparation and a pre-match warm-up routine to be undertaken prior to the start of the match. Late arrivals not only puts the coach under undue pressure, but it also deny the other team members the full attention of the coach.
- When we signed our children up to play soccer, we all made a commitment to our children, the children of other clubs and our club to play in matches. By not arriving at matches you are not only letting the children of your team down but also the children of the opposition team. Being unable to field a team not only results in huge disappointment in the children that are available to play, it can also result in the whole club being expelled

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from the league. Please ensure that we all are able to honour our commitments by honouring yours.

- Remember to keep soccer in its proper perspective. Soccer should not be larger than life for you. If your child's performance produces strong emotions in you, suppress them. Remember your relationship will continue with your children long after their soccer days are over. Keep your goals and needs separate from your child's experience.
- Support your child's team by attending and cheering all members of the team on. Your child's team mates are not the enemy. When they are playing better than your child, your child now has a wonderful opportunity to learn.

COACHES

- Set a good example which others can follow.
- Arrive in plenty of time to set up your activities and ensure safety.
- Children and seniors play for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Keep yourself informed about sound coaching practices and the principles of children's growth and development.
- Be reasonable in your demands on children's time, energy and enthusiasm - they need other interests.
- The successful coach invests in the well-being and interests of their players, not their win/loss record.
- Teach your team that honest effort is more important than victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Never ridicule or shout at a child for making a mistake or losing.
- Teach players to be fair and to follow the rules.
- Divide your time equally between all standards of players.
- Check you have adequate insurance cover for the coaching you are undertaking.
- Ensure you and your players have respect for their opponents, the officials and opposing coaches and supporters.
- Follow advice from a professional when determining if an injured player is ready to play or train.
- Take responsibility for the young people in your care until they have safely left the activity.

SPECTATORS

- Remember that participants play organized sports for their own enjoyment. They are not there to entertain you.
- Be on your best behaviour. Do not use profane language or harass, physically or verbally, players, managers, coaches, referees or assistant referees
- Applaud all good play by your own team and the other team.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them, there would be no game
- Condemn the use of violence and verbal abuse.
- Respect the match officials' decisions. Remember he/she is only human with the same feelings as you and, like you, sometimes makes an honest error.
- Encourage players always to play according to the Laws of the Game.
- Read the Laws of the Game to better understand what you are looking at and commenting on.

Have Fun!!!