



Eastern Eagles Football Club  
Code of Conduct for Football

Community

Football, at all levels, is a vital part of a community. Football will take into account community feeling when making decisions.

Equality

Football is opposed to discrimination of any form and will promote measures to prevent it, in whatever form, from being expressed.

Participants

Football recognises the sense of ownership felt by those who participate at all levels of the game. This includes those who play, those who coach or help in any way, and those who officiate, as well as administrators and supporters. Football is committed to appropriate consultation.

Young People

Football acknowledges the extent of its influence over young people and pledges to set a positive example.

Propriety

Football acknowledges that public confidence demands the highest standards of financial and administrative behaviour within the game, and will not tolerate corruption or improper practices.

Trust and Respect

Football will uphold a relationship of trust and respect between all involved in the game, whether they are individuals, clubs or other organisations.

Violence

Football rejects the use of violence of any nature by anyone involved in the game.

Fairness

Football is committed to fairness in its dealings with all involved in the game.

Integrity and Fair Play

Football is committed to the principle of playing to win consistent with Fair Play.

Eastern Eagles Football Club Code  
of Conduct for Coaches

Set out below is The FA Coaches Association Code of Conduct (which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sports Coaches) which forms the benchmark for all involved in coaching.

1. Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
4. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they, as players, are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
11. Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
12. Not to use or tolerate inappropriate language.

Eastern Eagles Football Club Code  
of Conduct for Players

Obligations towards the game

A player should:

1. Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina.
2. Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
3. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship, and time-wasting.
5. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
6. Not use inappropriate language. Obligations towards one's own team

A player should:

1. Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win.
2. Resist any influence which might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning.

Respect for the Laws of the Game and competition rules

A player should:

1. Know and abide by the Laws, rules and spirit of the game, and the competition rules.
2. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, equally.
3. Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques.

Respect towards Opponents

A player should:

1. Treat opponents with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game.
2. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents.

Respect towards the Match Officials

A player should:

1. Accept the decision of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

### Respect towards Team Officials

A player should;

1. Abide by the instructions of their Coach and Team Officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this Code.
2. Show due respect towards the Team Officials of the opposition.

### Obligations towards the Supporters

A player should:

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

## Eastern Eagles Football Club Code of Conduct for Team Officials

This Code applies to all team / club officials (although some items may not apply to all officials).

### Obligations towards the Game

The team official should:

1. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
2. Promote and develop his own team having regard to the interest of the Players, Supporters and reputation of the national game.
3. Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this rather than personal interests.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship.
5. Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game.
6. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
7. Not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

### Obligations towards the Team

The team official should:

1. Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team, and to obtain the best results by the team, using all permitted means.
2. Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests.
3. Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques.
4. Promote ethical principles.
5. Show due respect to the interests of players, coaches and other officials, at their own club/team and others.

### Obligations towards the Supporters

The team official should:

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

### Respect towards the Match Officials

A team official should:

1. Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

Eastern Eagles Code of Conduct for  
Parents/Carers/Spectators Explanation

Parents/Carers/Spectators have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. All children play football because they first and foremost love the game – it's fun. It is important to remember that however good a child becomes at football within our club it is important to reinforce the message to parents/carers/spectators that positive encouragement will contribute to:

- Children enjoying football
- A sense of personal achievement
- Self-esteem
- Assist to improve the child's skills and techniques.

Eastern Eagles Football Club  
Equality Policy

As the governing body of the game, The Football Association is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the game at every level. Football belongs to, and should be enjoyed by, anyone who wants to participate in it.

The FA's commitment is to eliminate discrimination whether by reason of gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability.

The FA is also committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with respect and that Eastern Eagles Football Club is equally accessible to them all.

Eastern Eagles Football Club is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the club at every level. Football belongs to and should be enjoyed by, anyone who wants to participate in it.

Our commitment is to confront and eliminate discrimination whether by reason of gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability and to encourage equal opportunities.

This policy is fully supported by the Club Officers who are responsible for the implementation of this policy.

Eastern Eagles Football Club, in all its activities will not discriminate, or in any way treat anyone less favourably, on grounds of gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability. It means that Eastern Eagles Football Club will ensure that it treats people fairly and with respect and that it will provide access and opportunities for all members of the community to take part in, and enjoy, its activities.

Eastern Eagles Football Club will not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of an individual, which for the purposes of this policy and the actions and sanction applicable is regarded as discrimination. This includes sexual or racially based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal.

Eastern Eagles Football Club will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.

Eastern Eagles Football Club is committed to taking positive action where inequalities exist, and to the development of a programme of ongoing training and awareness raising events and activities in order to promote the eradication of discrimination and promote equality in football.

Eastern Eagles Football Club is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members and requires all members to abide and adhere to these policies and the requirements of the relevant equalities legislation – Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995 as well as any amendments to these acts and any new legislation.

Eastern Eagles Football Club commits itself to the immediate investigation of any claims, when it is brought to its attention, of discrimination on the above grounds and where such is found to be the case, a requirement that the practice stop and sanctions imposed as appropriate.

### Club Complaints Procedure

In the event that any member feels that he or she has suffered discrimination in any way or that the club policies, Rules or Code of Conduct have been broken they should follow the procedures below.

1. They should report the matter to the Club Secretary or another member of the committee.

This report should include:

- i. details of what, where and when the occurrence took place
- ii. any witness statement and names
- iii. names of any others who have been treated in a similar way
- iv. details of any former complaints made about the incident, date, and to whom made
- v. a preference for a solution to the incident

2. The Clubs Management Committee will sit for any hearings requested.

3. The Clubs Management Committee will have the power to:

- i. warn as to future conduct
- ii. suspend from membership
- iii. remove from membership any person found to have broken the Club's Policies or Codes of Conduct

If the complaint is with regard to the Club's Management Committee the member has the right to report the discrimination direct to the relevant County Football Association.

Eastern Eagles Football Club  
Child Protection Policy

1. Eastern Eagles Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all its members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity. We subscribe to the Football Association's child protection and best practice policy and procedures and endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in that document.
2. The key principles of The FA Child Protection Policy are that:
  - The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
  - All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
  - All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
  - Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents or carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. Eastern Eagles Football Club recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved with our club.

3. Eastern Eagles Football Club has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's child protection regulation (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This includes those who are a volunteer, match official, helper on club tours, football coach, club official or medical staff.

4. We endorse and adopt The FA's Child Protection and Best Practise Guidelines for Recruiting Volunteers and will:

- Develop a role profile
- Request identification documents
- As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible interview before appointing.
- Request and follow up two (2) references before appointing
- Require an FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure where appropriate in line with FA guidelines.

All current Eastern Eagles Football Club members with direct access to children and young people will be required to complete a CRB Enhanced Disclosure via The FA CRB Unit. If there are concerns regarding the inappropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of Eastern Eagles Football Club, guidance will be sought from The Football Association. It is noted and accepted that The FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information

obtained via The FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people.

It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of 'grooming' within football.

5. Eastern Eagles Football Club supports The FA's 'whistle blowing' policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Child Protection Manager on 0207 745 4771, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, 25 Soho Square, London W1D 4FA or by going direct to the police, social services or the NSPCC. Eastern Eagles Football Club encourages everyone to know about it and utilise if necessary.

6. Eastern Eagles Football Club has appointed a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in line with The FA's role profile and required completion of the child protection and best practice workshop. This post holder will be involved with designated person's training provided by The FA. The CWO is the first contact for all the club members and parents or guardians regarding concerns for the welfare of any child or young person. They will liaise directly with the CFA CPO and will be familiar with the procedures for referring any concerns. They will also play a proactive role in increasing an awareness of poor practice and abuse amongst club members.

7. We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all players, parents or guardians should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the CWO, a member of the committee or, in cases of serious bullying contact the CFA CPO.

8. Codes of conduct for players, parents or spectators, officials and coaches have been implemented by Eastern Eagles Football Club.

In order to validate these codes of conduct the club has clear sanctions to deal with any misconduct at club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by leagues or the CFA in more serious circumstances. All prospective members will be informed of these codes.

9. Further advice on child protection matters can be obtained from:

- The County Football Association's Child Protection Officer, whose details can be found in the County Handbook
- The Football Association / NSPCC Child Protection
- 24-Hour Helpline 0808 800 5000
- [www.TheFA.com/Goal](http://www.TheFA.com/Goal)
- The FA Child Protection Team on 0207 745 4649

Eastern Eagles Football Club  
The FA Celebrating Football Photographs and Video

There has been much talk about whether it's safe to take pictures of under 18s playing sport. The FA would like to assure parents, carers, coaches, spectators, players and local media that we encourage the taking of appropriate images of children in football.

Potential risks

The FA has developed this guidance to help avoid the following:

The inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images for use on child abuse websites on the internet (often referred to as pornography sites);

The identification of children when a photograph is accompanied by significant personal information that will assist a third party in identifying the child. This can lead, and has led, to children being 'groomed';

The identification and locating of children in inappropriate circumstances which include:

- (i) Where a child has been removed from his/her family for their own safety;
- (ii) Where restrictions on contact with one parent following a parental separation exist e.g. in domestic violence cases;
- (iii) In situations where a child may be a witness in criminal proceedings; or
- (iv) Other child protection concerns.

The majority of images taken are appropriate and taken in good faith. If we take the following simple measures we can help to ensure the safety of children in football.

Common sense considerations to ensure everyone's safety:

Do

1. Share The FA's guidance on taking images with all parents, carers and members when they join the club;
2. Ensure the club has parental consent to use a player's image if it is to be used in the public domain e.g. club website or newspaper article. This is essential in relation to point 3 below;
3. Ensure that any child in our club who is under care proceedings, is protected by ensuring that their image is not placed in the public domain. This can be done by using an annual consent form, so that parents/carers can identify if this applies to children in their care
4. Focus on the activity rather than the individual;
5. Ensure all those featured are appropriately dressed (a minimum of vest or shirt and shorts);
6. Aim to take pictures which represent the broad range of youngsters participating safely in football e.g. boys and girls, disabled people, ethnic minority communities;
7. Report any instances of inappropriate images in football to The FA Case Manager or the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) contact details can be found on the following page.

## Don't

1. Publish photographs with the full name(s) of the individual(s) featured unless you have written consent to do so and you have informed the parents as to how the image will be used;
2. Use player profiles with pictures and detailed personal information on websites;
3. Use an image for something other than that for which it was initially agreed, e.g. published in local press when initially produced for a clubhouse commemorative picture;
4. Allow images to be recorded in changing rooms, showers or toilets - this includes the use of mobile phones that record images.

## Remember

It's not an offence to take appropriate photographs in a public place even if asked not to do so;

No one has the right to decide who can and cannot take images on public land;

If you have serious concerns about a possible child protection issue relating to the recording of images then call the police. This action should only be taken where you believe that someone may be acting unlawfully or putting a child at risk;

The land or facility owner can decide whether or not photography and/or videoing of football activities will be permitted when carried out on private land. However you need to make this known before allowing individuals access to the private property. If they do not comply then you may request that they leave;

Try not to use images that include individuals wearing jewellery (as wearing jewellery whilst playing is contrary to the Laws of the Game as well as being a health and safety issue).

## Commissioning professional photographers and the local media

If you are commissioning professional photographers or inviting the press to cover a football activity ensure you and they are clear about each other's expectations.

Remember the key is to plan ahead and communicate early on.

Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour;

Inform them of your club's commitment to safeguarding children and young people and establish who will hold the recorded images and what they intend to do with them, e.g. place on a website for sale, distribute thumb nails to the club to co-ordinate sales; Issue the professional photographer with identification, which must be worn at all times;

Inform participants and parents or carers prior to the event that a professional photographer will be in attendance and ensure you have established that no under 18s will be compromised due to child protection concerns if their image is taken – remember this can be done by using the annual consent form at the start of the season.

To report potentially unlawful materials on the internet please contact:

The Internet Watch Foundation Email: [report@iwf.org.uk](mailto:report@iwf.org.uk) Telephone: 08456

008844 Fax the hotline: 01223 235921

[www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk) / FA Case Management / Email: [ComplianceQueries@TheFA.com](mailto:ComplianceQueries@TheFA.com)

[www.TheFA.com/Goal](http://www.TheFA.com/Goal)



