

Refereeing Members

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

The Code of Ethics and Conduct is provided to members as an indication of the standards expected. Any possible breaches of this code should be advised to the Referees Committee who will consider appropriate action including deregistration or suspension (Any action recommended by the committee will be considered by the Referees Disciplinary Committee)

1. ETHICS

- A Referee is a professional with an important role within the realm of soccer. As a member of this organisation, you are pursuing a unique course within the soccer fraternity of clubs, players, officials, etc. Players, spectators and club officials will like you and dislike you by the minute, but regardless, they should respect you as a referee.
- You shall carry out your duties as a referee without fear or favour, and maintain the highest standards of integrity and honesty. Similar standards shall be maintained in associated off-field activities.
- You will continually be observed and judged, even when away from the immediate vicinity of clubs or grounds. Conduct yourself with dignity, and do not act in such a manner as to bring yourself, your colleagues, or the FFV into disrepute.
- You shall assist and support the FFV in the development and promotion of refereeing and referees. Negative comments and continual criticism do nothing to constructively assist or enhance your standing within it.
- Maintain your best at all times, on the field, at training, at meetings, and socially. Standards of conduct of anything less are self-defeating and unacceptable.

2. CONDUCT

"BE FAIR, AND BE SEEN TO BE FAIR"

- Ensure a smart appearance is maintained both on and off the field.
- Ensure that you are at the expected level of fitness to fulfil your duties at the required standard.
- Ensure that your knowledge of the laws and rules of competition is up-to-date and thoroughly understood, including any recent amendments.

- Be aware that your responsibility is to your senior appointment of the day. It is unacceptable to undertake other appointments earlier on the same day unless specifically arranged with the relevant appointment officer.
- Allow sufficient time to properly meet your appointment (i.e. arrive a minimum of 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game).
- Social fraternisation after games on club premises shall be kept within reasonable limits. If in doubt, ask if your conduct could be used to the detriment of your colleagues or yourself in the future.
- Complete all administrative tasks (e.g. paperwork, including Best & Fairest results, phone calls) within the time and to the standard required.
- Ensure adequate notice is given when unavailable for appointments.
- Ensure the earliest possible advice if you have to call-off an appointment.
- Limit your comments to fact, not opinion, when dealing with outsiders (e.g. club officials, players, etc). Opinions will be misinterpreted and misconstrued, and rebound in a way that you did not intend.
- Ensure that you treat your colleagues with the same respect and courtesy that you would expect from them.

3. BREACHES

- Ensure colleagues who have breached a code, are informed of the breach - they may be unaware. In serious circumstances, the breach/s should be reported to the FFV Referees Committee.
- Members breaching any of the codes, or being the subject of a complaint by a colleague or third party, **shall be called upon to explain their actions**. If proven, the member may be subject to disciplinary action.

Treat others, as you would wish to be treated, and remember:

“YOU NEVER GET A SECOND CHANCE TO MAKE A FIRST IMPRESSION”