



TEA TREE GULLY CITY SOCCER CLUB

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Version 2.0, February 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

The Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club's (TTGCSC) mission is to create an environment where children can learn and enjoy the game of soccer in a safe structured environment regardless of ability, race, and gender. We also aim to provide junior players with an opportunity to succeed in line with their own desires and we hope that our juniors will stay with the club and eventually make the transition to our Senior Teams.

2. PURPOSE

The main objective of the TTGCSC Code of Conduct Policy is to maintain responsible behaviour and the making of informed decisions by members and other participants in this club. It outlines our commitment to a person's right to be treated with respect and dignity, and to be safe and protected from discrimination, harassment, and abuse. Our policy informs everyone involved in our club of his or her legal and ethical rights and responsibilities and the standards of behaviour that are expected of them.

The TTGCSC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, club officials, coaches, team managers and parents/caregivers associated with the club should, always show respect and understanding for the safety and wellbeing of others.

The TTGCSC is a member of the below associations, and we are bound by their policies and by laws.

- South Australian Amateur League (SAASL)
- Elizabeth and Districts Junior Soccer Association (EDJSA) and
- Football South Australia (FSA)

We encourage all members of the TTGCSC visit the SAASL and EDJSA website and familiarise yourselves with their current policies.

❖ <http://www.saasl.com.au>

❖ <http://www.elizdists.com.au>

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to everyone involved in the activities of our club whether they are in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity, including but not limited to:

- club committee members, administrators, and other club officials;
- coaches and assistant coaches and other personnel participating in games, events, activities, and training sessions;
- support personnel, including managers, physiotherapists, masseurs, sport trainers and others;
- referees, umpires and other officials;
- athletes;



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- members, including any life members;
- parents;
- spectators;

4. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

When referring to this Policy, we expect the persons bound by it to adhere to the following:

4.1 Coaches

- Be reasonable in your demands on young players' time, energy, and enthusiasm.
- Teach your players that rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
- Remember that young people participate for fun and enjoyment - winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at the children for making mistakes or for losing a game.
- Listen to your players - ensure that the time they spend with you is a positive experience.
- Ensure that the TTGCSC fair play policy is inherited to. All players need and deserve equal playing time.
- Give young people the chance to try out different playing positions.
- Always communicate with officials in a courteous and polite way.
- Be a role model and set the highest standard possible.
- Never man-handle or touch players in an inappropriate way during your supervision.
- Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate – is it necessary for the player's skill development?
- Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of the officials and opposing coaches.
- Keep up to date with coaching practices and qualifications – ensure you understand the principles of physical growth and development.
- Ensure you are aware of the club's child safe policy – ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect. Complete the online training on www.playbytherules.net.au
- Avoid developing any 'special' relationships with children – ensure that you show no favouritism such as the offering of gifts or special treatment. This includes intimate relationships and personal online social networking with team members. Non-compliance with the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action by the Club.
- Remember your behaviour reflects on the entire club.



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4.2 Players

- Play for the “fun of it” and not just to please parents and coaches.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, discuss this with your team coach during a break or after the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent or throwing equipment is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team’s performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Cheer all good plays whether they are by your team or the other team.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Co-operate with your coach, teammates, and opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Learn the rules of the game and play by them at all times.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Do not expect or accept “special” favours from a coach or person involved in team or club management.
- Speak to an adult you trust if you have an issue, feel unsafe or are concerned about someone else.
- Non-compliance with the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action by the Club.
- Remember your behaviour reflects on the entire club.

4.3 Officials

- Be a role model and set the highest standard possible.
- Condemn behaviour that is unsporting and promote respect for all opponents.
- Never man-handle or touch players in an inappropriate way. This applies to both your club teams and opposition teams.
- Use common sense to ensure that the “spirit of the game” for children is not lost by over-emphasising errors.
- Actions speak louder than words. Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour. You are a role model.
- Compliment and encourage all participants— you are a role model and a source of a young person’s confidence building.
- Accept responsibility for the safety and welfare of players, referees, and officials above all else.
- Be consistent, objective, and courteous when making decisions.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.



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- Be familiar with relevant policies and procedures relating to a child safe environment.
- Give all people a “fair go” regardless of their gender, ability, rural background, or religion.
- Non-compliance with the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action by the Club.
- Remember your behaviour reflects on the entire club.
- Ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect - complete the online training on www.playbytherules.net.au

4.4 Parents/Caregivers

- If children are interested, encourage them to play sport. However, if a child is not willing to play, do not force them.
- Focus upon the child’s efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
- Teach children that honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Encourage children to always play according to the rules.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by both teams.
- If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question the official’s judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most officials volunteer their time and effort for your child’s involvement.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give significant time and resources to provide recreational activities for the children and deserve your support.
- Non-compliance with the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action by the Club.
- Remember your behaviour reflects on the entire club.

4.5 Spectators

- Children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they miniature professionals.
- Applaud good performance and efforts by your team and their opponents. Congratulate both teams upon their performance regardless of the game’s outcome.
- Respect the officials’ decision. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure in order to question the decision and teach the children to do likewise.
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials, or players.
- Show respect for your team’s opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Encourage players to play according to the rules and the officials’ decisions.



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- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches, or officials.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person -regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Ensure you are aware of and follow the correct processes if you have an issue or complaint – do not perpetuate issues with gossip or general criticism.
- Spectators are also subject to report by our affiliated associations (i.e.: FSA, EDJSA and/or SAASL).
- Non-compliance with the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action by the Club, FSA, EDJSA and/or SAASL.
- Remember your behaviour reflects on the entire club.

5. BREACH OF POLICY

Members, players, club officials and volunteers who do not abide by the Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club Code of Conduct Policy may face disciplinary action.

6. ADMINISTRATION

This policy is administered by the Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club Committee and will be reviewed every two years and updated where applicable.

Version History

Version	Date	Description	Next Review Date
1.0	July 2021	Adopted and endorsed by Committee	July 2023
2.0	August 2022	Adopted and endorsed by Committee	July 2024