

Ipswich Football Club Code of Conduct Policy



Purpose

This Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence in the honest and professional conduct of Matches or in the integrity and good character of its participants.

Related Documents

- [Football Australia Spectator Code of Behaviour](#)
- [Football Queensland Three Strike Policy](#)

Respect



5 Simple Rules



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Three Strike Process

The Three Strike Process applies to individuals where instances of abuse or misbehaviour directed at referees or other members of the football community, from spectators, club officials, team officials, players and clubs are reported.

Strike 1

1. Show Cause Notice will be issued to the offending individual/s.
2. The strike will remain valid and on the club's record for 12 months from the date of offence.
3. There is no appeal after a strike has been issued.

Strike 2

1. Show Cause Notice will be issued to the offending individual/s.
2. The strike will remain valid and on the club's record for 12 months from the date of offence.
3. The member has the right to appeal the decision within 14 days via email to Secretary@IpswichFC.com.au

Outcome

This will result in a 4 week ban from all events including but not limited to training and matches. You can drop off and pickup but must not exit the vehicle.

Strike 3

1. Show Cause Notice will be issued to the offending individual/s.
2. The strike will remain valid and on the club's record for 12 months from the date of offence.
3. The member has the right to appeal the decision within 14 days via email to Secretary@IpswichFC.com.au

Outcome

This will result in a 6 month ban from all events including but not limited to training and matches. You can drop off and pickup but must not exit the vehicle.

Zero Tolerance and Gross Misconduct

Notwithstanding the "Three Strike Process" outlined above, Ipswich Football Club reserves the right to bypass the tiered warning system and issue an immediate suspension, expulsion, or life ban for matters deemed to be Gross Misconduct.

In cases of Gross Misconduct, the Board may immediately suspend the individual pending a formal review, without the issuance of a prior Strike 1 or Strike 2.

Gross Misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical assault or credible threats of violence towards any player, official, volunteer, or spectator.
- Theft, misappropriation, or deliberate damage of Club or Council property.
- Serious breaches of the *Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy* (POL-002).
- Criminal activity occurring at Club events or venues.
- Any conduct involving illegal drugs or substances.

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Brining the Game into Disrepute

A Member or Spectator must not bring the Club or the game of football into Disrepute. A person will be taken as having brought football into Disrepute if any of the following occurs:

- harassment, including sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual conduct which makes a person feel offended, humiliated and/or intimidated where that reaction is reasonable in the circumstances;
- offensive behaviour, including offensive, obscene, provocative or insulting gestures, language or chanting;
- provocation or incitement of hatred or violence;
- spectator or crowd violence;
- intimidation of Match Officials, which may take the form of (but is not restricted to) derogatory or abusive words or gestures toward a Match Official or the use of violence or threats to pressure a Match Official to take or omit to take certain action regardless of where such action is taken;
- forgery and falsification, including creation of a false document, forgery of a document or signature, the making of a false claim or providing inaccurate or false information on a prescribed form;
- corruption, including offering a Benefit or an advantage to a Player or an Official in an attempt to incite him or her to violate FIFA Statutes or FFA Statutes;
- abuse of position to obtain personal benefit;
- commission or charge of a criminal offence; or
- any other conduct, behaviour or statement that materially injures the reputation and goodwill of the Club or football generally.

Disparaging Media Statements

A Member must not make any statement in public, including any contribution to television, radio or print media that:

- is disparaging or derogatory of a Match Official, opposition team or any Player or Official;
- is disparaging or critical of the Club; or
- comments on any matter the subject of a current hearing before the Match Review Panel, Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee.

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Player Code of Conduct

1. Respect the decisions of Match Officials and teach children to do the same;
2. Play by the rules;
3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted in any sport;
4. Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
5. Be a good sport and applaud all good plays whether they are your team, opponent or the other team.
6. Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
7. Co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.
8. Avoid the use of derogatory language based on gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.

Red Cards and Disciplinary Fines

- All disciplinary fines received by the Club will be passed onto the players to pay.
- Fines must be paid in full before the player can play any future matches.
- An email will be sent by the club with fine and payment details.

Coaches Code of Conduct

1. Respect the decisions of Match Officials and teach children to do the same;
2. Be reasonable in your demands on young players' time, energy and enthusiasm;
3. Teach your players that rules of the sport are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break;
4. Whenever possible, group players to give reasonable chance of success;
5. Comply with the Equal Playing Time Policy;
6. Remember that children participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation. Never ridicule or yell at children for making mistakes or losing a game;
7. Take into consideration the maturity level of the children, when scheduling and determining the length of practice times and games;
8. Develop team respect for the ability of the opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches;
9. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to commence training or competition;
10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and the principles of growth and development of children;
11. Avoid the use of derogatory language based on gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.
12. Strictly adhere to the Club's exclusive supply agreements. Coaches must not purchase sporting equipment or apparel from third-party suppliers (e.g., retail stores) on behalf of the Club without prior written Board approval.

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Spectator Code of Conduct

1. Respect the decisions of Match Officials and teach children to do the same.
2. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake.
3. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin.
4. Never use violence in any form towards another person including fellow spectators, Players or Match/Team Officials (including Coaches).
5. Not engage in acts of discrimination, harassment or abuse towards any person, including:
 - a. the use of obscene or offensive language and/or gestures;
 - b. the incitement of hatred or violence.
6. Comply with all Terms of Admission including provisions relating to security screening, intoxication, and items that are prohibited by law or restricted by policy from being brought into the Venue.
7. Not display, or attempt to display, within the Venue any offensive or inappropriate banners (whether in English or a foreign language) or any other sign, flag, emblem or insignia which may vilify a person on the basis of their age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin or which may offend or incite hatred or violence, as determined by Football Australia or the relevant Competition Administrator.
8. Never throw missiles, projectiles or objects of any description at Players, Match Officials or fellow spectators.
9. Not obscure the view of fellow spectators.
10. Not enter or attempt to enter the field of play or playing arena without lawful authority.
11. Refrain from any disorderly conduct or conduct that may injure the reputation and goodwill of
12. Football Australia and the code of Football generally.

Any person who does not comply with this Spectator Code of Behaviour or who otherwise causes a disturbance may be evicted from the Venue and may be banned from attending future Matches.

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Disciplinary Process

1. The given party will be asked to leave the premises.
1. If they refuse the Police are to be called.
2. An Incident Report is to be filled out and emailed to Secretary@IpswichFC.com.au
3. First attempt to resolve the dispute must be within 14 days from the date the dispute is known to all parties involved.
4. The Executive Committee must notify the member in writing of the outcome as soon as reasonably practical.
5. The member has the right to appeal the decision within 14 days via email to Secretary@IpswichFC.com.au

Appeals Process

1. Appeals Committee shall be made up of one Board Member, General Committee and coach not related to the member
2. Face to face meeting with Appeals Committee and Member (guardian must be present if under 18)
3. Decision within 14 days via email to member

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