



## Carrum Patterson Lakes Junior Football Club – Code of Conduct

Carrum Patterson Lakes Junior Football Club (CPLJFC) Code of Conduct is in place to ensure football is a positive and enjoyable experience for everyone. It applies to all football interactions, including but not limited to training, game days and events.

### Coaches

As a Coach you will:

- Uphold the CPLJFC values: Respect, Resilience, Equality, and Integrity
- Obtain, at a minimum, your Level One coaching and Working with Children certificates, and be registered with CPLJFC and [www.coach.afl](http://www.coach.afl);
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of your involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory or derogatory language or practices, verbal or in writing, on the basis of race, religion, gender, ability and/or sexual orientation, preference or identity;
- Abide by the by-laws and regulations of the AFL and its governing bodies, including the policies of CPLJFC and its associated League.
- Role model appropriate football practices including, but not limited to, arriving on time, training and playing in suitable attire, using suitable language and tone of voice, providing positive feedback, being SunSmart and appropriately hydrating;
- Endeavour to keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and principles of growth and skill development of children, including factors relating to the health and wellbeing of players;
- Address players in a controlled and positive manner and refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in your care.
- Have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of my players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in competition;
- Equally provide time, attention and opportunities to all registered players of the team whether at training or on match day; aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability (lowest to highest skilled);
- Stress safety always, ensuring equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of the players.
- Abide by the laws of the game and follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured player can play or train again.
- Display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that the team culture supports and fosters respect for Umpires, opponents, other coaches, administrators, officials, parents, and spectators.
- First and foremost, coach, nurture and develop your players; ensuring that players are involved in a positive environment where skill, learning and development are priorities that are not overshadowed by winning or losing.
- Reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL DRUG POLICY.
- Support the Club in the investigation of any complaints and/or breaches of this code.
- Provide an indication to the committee members or club officials of any incidents or wrong doing that require investigation immediately, whether during training, match day or club functions.
- Recognise the relationships of the CPLSC and treat all associate entities as we in turn wish to be treated.



## Players

As a player you will:

- Uphold the CPLJFC values: Respect, Resilience, Equality, and Integrity
- Train to improve your skills and play for your own enjoyment – not only to benefit yourself but also for the benefit of your teammates, Coaches, CPLJFC and match spectators.
- Play by the rules - respect the spirit of the AFL laws and comply with the CPLJFC policies, rules and regulations at all times;
- Be a team player – work hard, listen to learn and co-operate with your Coach, officials and teammates at all times.
- Be considerate to the club and your team - things happen, so if you can't make a training session or game, please advise the Team Manager and Coach as early as possible.
- Display and foster respect for team-mates, coaches, officials, committee members, umpires, opponents, parents, and spectators – without these people there would be no football for you to play.
- Look after facilities and equipment - appropriately use and clean the facilities and equipment made available for training, matches and events, including facilities provided by opposition clubs.
- Never argue with or dispute a decision of an official or umpire and encourage your teammates to do the same – if you disagree with a decision, or have a complaint, then you need to raise with the Coach, Team Manager, or other trusted official who will deal with the dispute in an appropriate manner.
- Control your emotions – do not sledge, swear at, or verbally or physically abuse coaches, officials, umpires, or other players, and be always respectful of others, whether you win or lose.
- Bring a positive attitude - applaud all good plays, whether from your team or the opposition, and be proud to walk off the ground after each game knowing that you have given your best effort.
- Contribute to a safe sporting environment and respectful culture - respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of race, religion, gender, ability and/or sexual orientation, preference or identity, and;
- Consider club reputation - do not engage in conduct or behaviour that is unethical, derogatory, or likely to cause harm to the reputation of you, your Coach, your parent/guardian(s) and/or the club. Do not make or post inappropriate, offensive, or discriminatory comments in public, including via social media, about other players, clubs, umpires, officials, the AFL, or the League.  
Social media includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Tik Tok, Instagram and/or similar websites and blogs).
- Recognise the relationships of the CPLSC and treat all associate entities as we in turn wish to be treated.



## Club and Team Officials

As a Club Official and/or Team Official you will:

- Uphold the CPLJFC values: Respect, Resilience, Equality, and Integrity
- Be diligent in your role and treat all people associated with CPLJFC, including players, coaches, other officials, umpires, parents, spectators, and opposition clubs, with respect.
- Act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the sport and CPLJFC.
- Adhere to the policies, procedures, and guidelines as established by CPLJFC and its associated League, satisfying compulsory requirements of the relevant role.
- Attend committee and/or team meetings as required or provide an apology prior to the meeting if unable to attend.
- Act as a positive role model for good sporting behaviour and promote respect for players, coaches, other officials, umpires, and the opposition.
- Support coaches and other officials to improve their skills and competencies,
- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else, ensuring quality supervision and instruction for players.
- Conduct club responsibilities with due care, competence, and diligence, acting in a consistent, impartial, and objective manner when making decisions. Ensure that any information acquired, or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly.
- Respect CPLJFC facilities, equipment and resources and only use it for club related business.
- Be aware of potentially volatile situations and be prepared to deal with them appropriately, resolving any conflict in a calm, sensible manner (where possible in private), and.
- Ensure all players and volunteers are included and can participate, regardless of their race, religion, cultural background, gender, appearance, disability, football ability and/or sexual orientation, preference, or identity.
- Support the CPLJFC in the investigation of any complaints and/or breaches of this code.
- Recognise the relationships of the CPLSC and treat all associate entities as we in turn wish to be treated.



## Parents/Guardians/Supporters/Spectators

As a parent/guardian and/or supporter/spectator you will:

- Adhere to the club values: Respect, Resilience, Equality, and Integrity
- Encourage and support participation, providing positive feedback and recognition for player's efforts. Remember that your child should be involved for their enjoyment, not yours!
- Ensure your child attends training regularly and is at each match at least 40 minutes before play is due to begin to allow your child warm up (health permitting). If an absence is planned, communicate it to your Team Manager and Coach as soon as practicable.
- Encourage Players to play by the rules - teach your child that an honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Support and respect Players, Coaches, Umpires and Officials in maintaining the highest standards of behaviour both on and off the field. Physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any Player, Coach, Official, Umpire or supporter/spectator will not be tolerated.
- Recognise all volunteers - they give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child and deserve your support and appreciation.
- Be proactive in supporting and assisting the team so that every opportunity is being provided the best supervision and support at training and on match days.
- Respect the facilities and equipment of CPLJFC and opposing clubs.
- Refrain from instructing, coaching or distracting players during play or training and/or ridiculing mistakes or losses.
- Will not make yourself part of the game – you are there to support and encourage those involved.
- Not enter the field of play in any sanctioned game unless granted permission by an official to do so.
- Not publicly criticise umpires or opposition clubs - please direct any feedback or complaints regarding any football related matter via your Team Manager or a trusted club official in private.
- Not use remarks based on race, religion, gender, ability and/or sexual orientation, preference or identity as this behaviour is strictly not acceptable – CPLJFC has zero tolerance to this behaviour.
- Not make or post inappropriate, offensive, or discriminatory comments in public, including via social media, about Players, Clubs, Coaches, Umpires, Officials, the AFL, or the League. Social media includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Tik Tok, and/or similar websites and blogs).
- Support CPLJFC in the investigation of any complaints and/or breaches of this code.
- Recognise the relationships of the CPLSC and treat all associate entities as we in turn wish to be treated.



## **Dispute Resolution**

Concerns about perceived breach(es) of the CPLJFC Code of Conduct should be raised in the first instance with the Team Manager or member of the CPLJFC Committee.

Escalated complaints will be handled by the CPLJFC Executive Committee, in line with the AFLSE & FDJFL guidelines.

The Executive Committee will follow due process to review a complaint and shall have the power to impose a sanction and/or penalty, as it sees appropriate. The options include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning.
- Written apology to another CPLJFC member or supporter, opposition club member or supporter, official, umpire, League, or AFL representative where applicable.
- A request for financial compensation to meet any damage/theft of property
- A ban on a player for one or more matches, or a specified period
- A ban on a member or supporter from attending CPLJFC sanctioned training sessions, matches, match reports and/or functions for a specified period.
- Suspension of membership for a specified period
- Removal from role, including de-registration.
- Expulsion of membership from CPLJFC and/or CPLSC.