

# Maidenhead Boys and Girls Football Club: Codes of Conduct

## Code of Conduct for Coaches and Managers

Coaches and managers play a vital role in shaping the behaviour and experiences of children and players within Maidenhead Boys and Girls Football Club. Their conduct has a direct impact on both individual development and the overall environment of the club. As such, it is essential that coaches and managers consistently uphold the highest standards of behaviour.

While the desire to win is a natural part of competitive sport, the club recognises that the pursuit of victory should never come at the expense of the welfare of young people. Coaches and managers are required to prioritise the health, safety, welfare, and moral education of all players above achievements or the reputation of the club, school, coach, or parent.

- Coaches and managers must respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every individual, treating all participants equally within the sporting context.
- The well-being and safety of each player must always be placed above all other considerations, including performance development and winning.
- Coaches and managers are expected to adhere to all guidelines set by governing bodies.
- Appropriate working relationships with players should be established, built on mutual trust and respect.
- Coaches and managers must not exert undue influence for personal benefit or reward.
- Players should be encouraged and guided to take responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Activities directed or advocated must be suitable for the age, maturity, experience, and ability of the players.
- Expectations for players and, where appropriate, parents should be clarified at the outset, including what they can expect from their coach.
- Full cooperation with other professionals is required when it is in the best interests of the player.
- Coaches and managers must always promote the positive aspects of football, such as fair play, and must never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, inappropriate behaviour, or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
- High standards of behaviour and appearance must be consistently maintained.
- The use or tolerance of inappropriate language is strictly prohibited.

At Maidenhead Boys and Girls Football Club, player development is fostered through positive match experiences as well as coaching. It is therefore expected that all players are given equal opportunity to participate in good quality match time.

## Spectator and Parent Code of Conduct

Parents and spectators are representatives of both the Club and its players and are therefore expected to act appropriately at all times. As role models, their behaviour sets the tone for our young players, and it is essential that this is consistently positive. All parents are expected to commit to the following:

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- Show respect to all match officials, regardless of their age, bearing in mind that some officials may be as young as fourteen years old.
- Treat opposition supporters, team members, and coaching staff with respect.
- Respect the decisions made by your team's management and coaching staff.
- Accept the decisions of match officials without complaint.
- Refrain from using foul, abusive, racist, sexist, or negative language that may cause offence to opposition or MBGFC players, managers, or coaching staff.
- Accept both defeat and success with good grace, and maintain a fair and respectable sporting manner at all times.

It is important to note that breaches of this code may result in sanctions imposed by the FA and/or the Club. Such sanctions can range from warnings and match suspensions to bans or, in serious cases, exclusion of your player from the Club.

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## Code of Conduct for Players

As representatives of Maidenhead Boys and Girls Football Club, players are required to demonstrate positive conduct at all times. The following code outlines the standards expected:

- Adhere to the Laws of the Game, the Rules of Association Football, and the regulations of the leagues in which you play at all times.
- Accept all decisions of the Manager, Coach, and Match Officials without question or protest. If you have concerns about the behaviour or decisions of your Manager or Coach, raise them at an appropriate time (such as after the match or training), or speak to your parent, who may discuss the matter with the Manager, Coach, or a Club Committee member.
- Accept success, failure, victory, and defeat in a sporting and gracious manner.
- Do not criticise, disagree with, belittle, or discredit any club player or opposition player under any circumstances.
- Do not use foul, abusive, negative, or offensive language, including racist, sexist, or homophobic remarks or gestures that may insult or provoke others.
- Show respect to all players, managers, and coaches.
- Demonstrate kindness, inclusivity, and teamwork at all times.

To ensure that MBGFC remains enjoyable for everyone, negative or disrespectful behaviour will result in consequences. If such behaviour is reported or witnessed:

- Your manager or coaches will discuss the matter with you and your parents, and a warning will be issued to encourage improvement.
- If there is no improvement, a member of the welfare team will speak with you and your parents to consider training and/or game suspensions.
- After three suspensions, you may be asked to leave the club if unacceptable behaviour continues.

Exceptions may apply; where the Welfare Team deems it appropriate, steps may be skipped and serious incidents can result in immediate exclusion from the club.

Name:

Signature:

Date: