



**PAPAMOA FOOTBALL CLUB  
Incorporated**



**Code of Conduct**

**2009**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Papamoa Football Club is a community organisation that supports soccer activities emphasising fun, fair play and sportsmanship. Our Mission is to enhance participants' enjoyment of their soccer experience. To better achieve that goal, we are outlining a Code of Conduct for all the players, coaches and parents / caregivers involved in Papamoa Football Club.

The Code of Conduct is a written obligation and commitment between the players, coaches and parents / caregivers to abide by the rules and regulations of the game as well as maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. This obligation and commitment is more than just a piece of paper, it is the essence of our goals and objectives and thus, adherence to it is of primary importance.

All players who play in a team associated with Papamoa Football Club, their parents / caregivers, and associate members agree to this Code of Conduct at the time of registration. Our Coaches and Committee members who are not required to complete a registration form are required to agree and sign this Code of Conduct at the time of accepting the role.

## **MAINTAINING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE**

Players, coaches and parents / caregivers are expected to show a positive regard and a respectful attitude to everyone involved in the sport. Criticism and disrespect for officials, opponents, coaches or supporters undermines the ideals of sport and brings into the game stresses beyond competition. It contributes to behaviour not in keeping with the spirit of the game.

## **SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE**

Each person associated with Papamoa Football Club is accountable for his / her own behaviour at all times around the field of play, either at home or away. Coaches, Parents / Caregivers and other adults should remember it is up to you to set a good example and not to tolerate those who do not.

The Papamoa Football Club will not tolerate conduct, which is detrimental to the sport, the participants or the community. Such conduct includes: vulgarity by coaches, players and / or parents / caregivers; harassment or belittling of officials, coaches or players; physical violence or the threat of physical violence toward anyone before, during or after the match; verbal abuse directed at anyone before, during or after the match; and the taunting of opposing players, coaches and parents / caregivers. We require the utmost self-restraint on the part of players and especially adults.

In addition, violent play, rowdy behaviour, verbal abuse, assault or similar behaviour by any teams associated with Papamoa Football Club will not be tolerated. The Papamoa Football Club Management Committee will investigate and take whatever action is necessary to protect the interests of Papamoa Football Club and all those persons associated with it.

## **A GOOD RELATIONSHIP**

- **The Officials**

On the football field the referee is the symbol of authority and often the target of criticism. The referee's job is a difficult one and all referees are human and do make mistakes. Anytime you feel your team is being treated unfairly talk to your coach after the game. Do not verbally abuse the official whilst he is trying to referee. Coaches are asked to report to the Management Committee any problems that occur with officials. Please do not take matters into your own hands and approach the referee at, during or after the game. In accordance with FIFA Laws, verbal abuse towards referees could result in a red card or ejection of the player, coach or parent / caregiver. Referees have the authority to suspend play if a coach does not control his players and supporters.

- **The Coach**

The primary responsibility of the coach is to coach and teach children the game of football. However he/she is also responsible for the teams' supporters but parents should not expect the coach to police the sidelines. Positive support for the team and coach is encouraged.

- **The Opponents**

Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of opposing players, coaches and supporters at all times. Any action, which can be deemed disrespectful, will be punished under the guidelines of the violation of this Code of Conduct. Sportsmanship begins with respect.

- **Your Team**

You must respect your fellow team mates at all times. You should show compassion and consideration and remember – we can all have an 'off day'. There is no "I" in team, you are all as good as the support you give each other.

## **PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Play by the rules
- Never argue with an official.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse or physical abuse of officials and other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours of any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays, whether by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in your sport, as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Co-operate with your coaches, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## **VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Management Committee will monitor every player's and team's conduct through the season.

Should we receive any official complaints regarding a player, team, Coach or supporter of the club, these complaints will be thoroughly investigated by the Management Committee and immediate action taken.

In the first instance the player, coach or supporter in question will receive a verbal warning.

Should a 2<sup>nd</sup> incident occur and investigation uphold the need for sanction of a player then the player will be sent a written warning and, depending on consultation with the coach the player may be stood down for the following game or for up to a maximum of 3 games. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> incident is against a Coach or supporter then they will also receive a written warning.

Should such an occasion arise that we receive a 3<sup>rd</sup> complaint then depending on the results of investigation by the Management Committee, the player, coach or Supporter shall be asked to forfeit their membership and playing privileges with Papamoa Football Club.

All complaints will be thoroughly investigated by the Management Committee and any consultation with other team members and officials will be noted. The decision of Papamoa Football Club will be final.

Any player found in breach of our Code of Conduct will not receive a refund of any fees paid to date and must return their club strip immediately.

The Management Committee will impose restrictions on a player or make other recommendations to the Executive Committee in the best interests of Papamoa Football Club. Any decision thereafter made by the Executive Committee will be final.

## **CONCLUSION**

The purpose of sport is to provide a competitive, learning environment to teach all participants values of teamwork, co-operation and sportsmanship. Football is just one sport, which offers this type of environment for our children. Papamoa Football Club can be competitive without crossing the line of decent behaviour, keeping in mind our children will follow our example. We should act accordingly.

It is up to ALL of us, players, coaches, parents / caregivers and administrators to ensure that any types of bad sportsmanship do not occur.

Any questions or disputes concerning this Code of Conduct can be brought to the attention of the Management Committee of Papamoa Football Club.

**BY SIGNING THE REGISTRATION FORM OF PAPAMOA FOOTBALL CLUB YOU, THE PLAYER, AND YOUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE CODE OF CONDUCT AS OUTLINED IN THIS DOCUMENT.**