

BEDLINGTON FC  
CODE OF CONDUCT



**Respect**





## PLAYERS

### AS A BEDLINGTON FC PLAYER, I WILL:

- Always play to the best of my ability and for the benefit of my team
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, dive, complain or waste time
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee and always accept that the referee's decision is final, never argue with them verbally or physically abuse them
- Be gracious in victory and defeat – I will shake hands with all members of the other team and referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me
- Always turn up on time for matches and training, giving my full attention and best efforts in everything I do
- Understand that a coach must do what is best for the team and not one individual player
- Return all supplied kit and equipment if I leave the club
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.
- I understand that I may choose to communicate information that provides a messaging service via social media, however this must be managed appropriately. I accept it is against FA and Club rules to post comments that are or may be conceived as, offensive, insulting, abusive, threatening, racist, harassment, homophobic or any other reference that may cause offence or harm to other members of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or bring the Club into disrepute as a result. I understand that if I was to create a social media group under the name of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or an affiliated team that at least one member of the Club Committee will be a part of this group and have administrative rights.

I understand that if I do not follow the code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, county FA or the FA:

### I MAY:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal verbal/written warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training & matches
- Be required to leave the club.

### IN ADDITION:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club.







## PARENTS & SPECTATORS

We all bear a collective responsibility to set a good example and help provide a positive environment in which children can learn and enjoy the game. Play your part and observe BEDLINGTON FC's Code of Conduct for parents & spectators always.

### I WILL AND MY GUESTS:

- Remember that children play for FUN and I will not force my child to participate in a match or training session (the game is for the children, not for adults)
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success from whatever team it comes from
- I will teach my child that doing his/her best is more important than winning so that he/she will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her Performance
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard which will make my child feel like a winner every time
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a game – mistakes are part of learning
- Respect the Referee's decisions even when you don't agree with them
- I will never question, discuss, or confront the coach at the game. I will take time to speak with the coach at a mutually agreed time and place if required
- Remain behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the official coaches of the team
- I will advise the coach/manager as soon as I am aware that my child is unable to attend a training session or fixture
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Encourage the players to express their individual footballing freedom and creativity allowing them to develop, learn and play in an encouraging and supportive environment
- I will not possess or consume alcohol outside of any designated bar area at any game, tournament or other sporting venue
- I will not smoke tobacco at any training session, game or tournament. If I need to smoke, I will do so in an area specifically designated for this purpose
- I (and any guests) will not allow pets on to the playing or training facility at any time
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Attend, promote and professionally represent the Club at public and fundraising events
- I understand that I may choose to communicate information that provides a messaging service through social media sites, however the use of such sites must be managed appropriately. I understand that it is against FA and Club rules to post comments that are or may be conceived as, offensive, insulting, abusive, threatening, racist, harassment, homophobic or any other reference that may cause offence or harm to other members of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or bring the Club into disrepute as a result. I





understand that if I was to create a user group under the name of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or an affiliated team that at least one member of the Club Committee will be a part of this group and have administrative rights.

- If in the unlikely event I am required to transport player/s ["Member/s"] in a privately-owned vehicle because it is the safest or only option, I will adhere to the following:
  - Have a valid enhanced CRB disclosure through the Club and FA;
  - Have a roadworthy and appropriately insured vehicle that meets all the legal requirements for use of the road (BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB cannot take responsibility or liability for any grievances or claims arising from inadequate insurance or non-roadworthy vehicles);
  - Have permission from the player's parents/carers;
  - Have another member of the Club accompanying them;
  - Player/s to be seated in the back wearing a seatbelt. I fully understand that in transporting or by giving permission as guardian of a player/s ["Member/s"] to be transported in privately owned vehicles that BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB are not held responsible or liable for such action.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

#### I MAY BE:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

#### IN ADDITION:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.







## COACHES, TEAM MANAGERS AND CLUB OFFICIALS

We all bear a collective responsibility to set a good example and help provide a positive environment in which children can learn and enjoy the game. Play your part and observe The BEDLINGTON FC's Code of Conduct always.

### ON AND OFF THE FIELD, I WILL:

- Use my position to set a positive example for the young people I am responsible for
- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
- Respect the match official's decision
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Be gracious in victory and defeat.
- Hold a valid and up-to-date FA coaching certification – minimum of Level 1 - which includes Safeguarding and First Aid.

Develop the young people I am responsible for in line with FA Best Practice whilst adhering to the playing and development philosophy of the Club

Continuously develop myself and those around me by completing development plans, undertaking open training session with other teams and aligning myself with coaching best practice and techniques

- Attend, promote and professionally represent the Club at affiliated leagues, and public and fundraising events.

### WHEN WORKING WITH PLAYERS, I WILL:

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests.
- Never allow myself to be in a single adult/single child situation which could conceivably lead to an allegation of improper conduct

### SOCIAL MEDIA, PLAYER COMMUNICATION & TRANSPORTATION:





- I understand that I may choose to communicate information that provides a messaging service via social media sites, however the use of such sites must be managed appropriately. I understand that it is against FA and Club rules to post comments that are or may be conceived as, offensive, insulting, abusive, threatening, racist, harassment, homophobic or any other reference that may cause offence or harm to other members of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or bring the Club into disrepute as a result. I understand that if I was to create a user group under the name of BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB or an affiliated team that at least one member of the Club Committee will be a part of this group and have administrative rights.
  
- I understand that I will not contact U18's via:
  - Use of text or emails for personal conversation, sending pictures, jokes or other items of a personal nature
  
  - Respond to emails from young people other than those directly related to club matters. Advise the club welfare officer of any non-club related emails I receive
  
  - Use language that is directly (or could be misinterpreted as being) racist, sexist, derogatory, threatening, abusive or sexualised in tone.
  
- If in the unlikely event that I am required to transport player/s ["Member/s"] in a privately-owned vehicle because it is the safest or only option, I will adhere to the following:
  - Have a valid enhanced CRB disclosure through the Club and FA;
  
  - Have a roadworthy and appropriately insured vehicle that meets all the legal requirements for use of the road (BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB cannot take responsibility or liability for any grievances or claims arising from inadequate insurance or non-roadworthy vehicles);
  
  - Have permission from the player's parents/carers;
  
  - Have another member of the Club accompanying them;
  
  - Player/s to be seated in the back wearing a seatbelt. I fully understand that in transporting or by giving permission as guardian of a player/s ["Member/s"] to be transported in privately owned vehicles that BEDLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB are not held responsible or liable for such action.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or the FA:

**I MAY BE:**

- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer
  
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
  
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
  
- Required to leave or be sacked by the club.

**IN ADDITION:**







- My FA Coaching Licence may be withdrawn.

**I understand the importance of this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it always**

**Signed:**

**Name:**

**Team Name & Age Group:**

**Dated:**



## MATCH OFFICIALS

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. The behaviour of the match officials has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the conduct of everyone involved in the game – both on the pitch and on the side-lines.

Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct of match officials always.

### I WILL:

- Be honest and completely impartial always
- Apply the Laws of the Game and competition rules fairly and consistently
- Manage the game in a positive, calm and confident manner
- Deal with all instances of violence, aggression, unsporting behaviour, foul play and other misconduct
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour from players and team officials
- Support my match official colleagues always
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour from players and team officials
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game
- Communicate with the players and encourage fair play
- Respond in a clear, calm and confident manner to any appropriate request for clarification by the team captains
- Prepare physically and mentally for each match
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise reports within the time limit required for games in which I officiate.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

### I MAY BE:

- Required to meet with The FA /County FA Refereeing Official
- Required to meet with the FA/County FA Refereeing Committee.





## ADULT PLAYERS

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for players always.

### ON AND OFF THE FIELD, I WILL:

- Adhere to the Laws of The Game
- Display and promote high standards of behaviour
- Promote Fair Play
- Always respect the match official decisions
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Never engage in bullying, intimidation or harassment
- Speak to my team-mates, the opposition and my coach/manager with respect
- Remember we all make mistakes
- Win or lose with dignity. Shake hands with the opposing team and the referee at the end of every game
- Attend, promote and professionally represent the Club at affiliated leagues, and public and fundraising events. I will not smoke tobacco at any training session, game or tournament. If I need to smoke, I will do so in an area specifically designated for this purpose
- I (and any guests) will not allow pets on to the playing or training facility at any time

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

### I MAY:

- Be required to apologise to team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a warning from the coach
- Receive a written warning from the club committee
- Be required to attend an FA education course
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Not be selected for the team
- Be required to serve a suspension
- Be fined
- Be required to leave the club.

### IN ADDITION:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.



