GEELONG AMATEUR FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

# GEELONG AMATEUR FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB JUNIOR COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

**October 2026**

1. Be familiar with the laws of Australian football and abide by the rules and conditions of your league and club.
2. Teach your players the rules of the game are mutual agreements which no-one should evade or break.
3. Group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity whenever possible in any competitive practice session.
4. Avoid over-playing the talented players. The “just average” players need and deserve equal time.
5. Remember that the players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Emphasise the importance of the learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your player for making mistakes or losing a competition.
6. Ensure that equipment and facilities meets safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of the players.
7. The scheduling and length of practice times and competitions should take into consideration the maturity level of the player.
8. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgment of umpires and opposing coaches.
9. Follow the advice of a qualified medical staff when determining when an injured player is ready to play or train again.
10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound junior coaching principles and developments. All coaches must to be a registered with Coach AFL at the start of each season. First time coaches are required to complete level 1 coaching accreditation to be a registered coach.
11. Every coach, team manager/official must have a current Working with Children Check and make sure this is kept up to date.
12. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.
13. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse or any form of intimidation from junior sport.
14. Promote all activities to make sure our club is a child safe environment.
15. Coaches are to only use designated groups apps for communication that include parents/guardians. Coaches are not to communicate with minors in private, one-on-one chats or secret group chats.

* **Refer to AFL Code of Conduct which is part of ‘Section 9. Member Protection’ of the National Community Football Policy Handbook.**