

# LFNC Code of Conduct



## Purpose

This Code of Conduct aims to ensure spectators and guests, and all **Leopold Football Netball Club (LFNC) people 'LFNC people'** including players, parents and guardians, coaches, managers, medical/trainers, volunteers, administrators, officials, employees, service providers or sponsors of the LFNC understand the behaviour expected from them, and that breaches of these codes will result in disciplinary action.

## *Commitment to Child Safety*

Every person involved with the LFNC has a responsibility to understand their role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all persons, particularly to children and young people in our club. This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and young people and reduce the opportunity for abuse or harm to occur. It also helps club personnel and volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and young people and avoid or better manage difficult situations.

This Code of Conduct applies to **all LFNC activities**, including training, match day, functions and in the use of digital technology and social media and to any person involved in LFNC activities.

This Code of Conduct should be read in conjunction with:

- LFNC Child Safeguarding & Wellbeing Policy
- [AFL Barwon Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [AFL Barwon Safeguarding Children and Young People Behavioural Standards](#)
- [AFL Barwon Policies](#), [AFL Safeguarding Children & Young People](#), [Netball Australia Code of Conduct for Community Netball](#)

**All people engaged in LFNC activities** are required to:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Never use offensive language or behaviour towards anyone or engage in sledging or bullying of any person
- Adhere to LFNC Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing Policy and other LFNC policies
- Take all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse

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- Provide a welcoming environment for all people including opposition teams and particularly children and their families and guardians
- Be a positive role model by demonstrating appropriate social and good sporting behaviour, including respecting official's decisions
- Report and act on any breaches of this Code of Conduct, complaints or concerns in the appropriate way and timely manner. Treat these concerns and/or complaints seriously and with respect
- Adhere to smoke-free areas and liquor license requirements
- Respect any decisions made by club personnel and/or umpires

**Guidelines for all LFNC people engaging with children and young people (CYP)**  
*(Specifically applicable to players, parents and guardians, coaches, managers, medical/trainers, volunteers, administrators, officials, employees, service providers or sponsors)*

## Must not

- Use derogative or harmful language e.g., threatening, frightening, profanity, discriminating, racist or sexual
- Discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability or sexuality
- Have unauthorised contact or encourage communication with children and young people online or by phone
- Engage in unwarranted and inappropriate physical contact outside any role (e.g., primary carer/first aider may need to apply physical testing of CYP for injury assistance)
- Engage in any form of sexual behaviour with or use sexual language or gestures in presence of CYP
- Be alone in a change room with a CYP (other than with own child) or unnecessarily dress/undress (exception when playing in a senior team and other members present)
- Attend any private social function at the request of a CYP or their family, where there is no existing social, personal, or family relationship
- Consume alcohol, illicit drugs, tobacco or vape when working with or supervising CYP and to also not supply these to a CYP
- Ignore or disregard concerns, suspicions or disclosure of child abuse
- Arrange overnight stays and sleeping arrangements without prior authorisation of parent/guardians and the LFNC executive committee

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- Leave any training or match until all CYP have departed

## Must

- Use appropriate tone and language ensuring clear direction and encouragement
- Act only in the confines of your duty or role (e.g., if you're a coach, just be a coach)
- Respect the privacy of children and their families, but remain diligent to the responsibility to raising concerns to LFNC Child Safeguarding Officer if risks to child safety are identified
- Value the ideas and opinions of CYP and provide them with the opportunity to voice these
- Report any behaviours that display discrimination, harassment, bullying or violence of any form, whether it be by a spectator, coach, club personnel or player
- Copy in parents/guardian on any electronic communication and only communicate to the CYP regarding LFNC activities
- Use disciplinary strategies that are fair, respectful and appropriate to the developmental stage of the CYP
- Provide constant, active, and diligent supervision of CYP. Prioritising the safety and wellbeing
- Immediately disclose any charges or convictions affecting suitability to engage with CYP

Generally, all **LFNC people** must:

- Always play by the rules
- Respect decisions made by club personnel, umpires and officials
- Co-operate, support and encourage fellow players and LFNC people
- Display good sportsmanship behaviours
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit
- Maintain the concept that sport is for the enjoyment for everyone and winning is only a part of the fun
- Be reasonable with the expectations and demands of all LFNC people including players, club officials and umpires
- Report any inappropriate behaviour and/or language
- In all activities, never act or behave in a way that damages the reputation of the LFNC

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Additionally, Coaches, Board/committee and Parents have adhere to the following:

**Officials and Committee members** are required to:

- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else
- Ensure that the you are promoting the rules and spirit of the game and that you are encouraging children to do the same
- Be inclusive of everyone involved at LFNC activities and respect the rights and dignity of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Remain impartial and objective in decision making
- Address any unsportsmanlike behaviour around the club and promote respect for all members and club personnel
- Conduct your responsibilities and execute duties of your role with due diligence, care, and competence
- Ensure confidentiality and privacy of individuals and matters as your role or responsibility requires and remind others of the same standard

**Coaches** are required to:

- Encourage all players through constructive and positive feedback
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications before commencing coaching
- Maintain good sportsmanship behaviour in all LFNC activities
- Always consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before performance and results
- Ensure that the you are promoting the rules and spirit of the game and that you are encouraging children to do the same

**Board/committee members and administrators MUST:**

- Ensure that club personnel such as managers and coaches are appointed appropriately and have the best interests of the children and club in mind
- Ensure all resources for reporting a breach of this code of conduct, incident or complaint are accessible to players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators

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- Maintain an inclusive environment regardless of an individual's race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion

## **Parents/spectators MUST:**

- Encourage your child to participate, have fun and try their best. Winning is only a small part
- Recognise the value and importance of coaches and other officials. Offer help at training sessions or on game day, where possible
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour towards other spectators, coaches, officials and players
- Remember that you are a role model for children and behaviours and words can encourage or discourage a child from continuing to participate in the sport

**NOTE:** Failure to adhere to the codes of conduct may result in the withdrawal or suspension of you or child's registration to participate in LFNC activities.

**This policy was last updated on :** 20 January 2026

**The next review is due after :** 01 January 2031