



## LISBURN YOUTH FC - CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Code of conduct is designed to secure the well being of all concerned at Lisburn Youth Football Club (LYFC). The code of conduct is for all roles connected to LYFC and it is very important that Parents and Players are aware of what is expected from them.

Parent's / Guardian's have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. A Parent's / Guardian's expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards *other players, officials, managers and spectators*.

Adults should always aim to:

- *Help players to have a clear understanding of the standard of behaviour expected*
- *Help players to understand the rules and display patience*
- *Appreciate that senior football and children's football are not the same*

To help us provide the right environment for all those concerned at LYFC it is important that parents, players and coaches observe the guidelines set out overleaf. All parents and players are asked to consent to this "**Code of Conduct**" by signing and returning the last page to a Club Official as soon as possible.



## PARENTS:

- ❖ **Must not enter the dressing room areas unless given permission by one of the coaches.**
- ❖ Must use designated viewing areas at games.
- ❖ **Refrain from giving instructions to their own child or players while representing the club. Only the team coach or nominated person should give instructions to the players. Parents should give encouragement and not instructions as this leads to confusion.**
- ❖ Respect all official's decisions, whether qualified or unqualified. Officials should be encouraged and supported.
- ❖ **Do not make any comments other than complimentary, towards players, officials and spectators of opposing teams.**
- ❖ Have far more time with your child than the coaches so please be positive after games or coaching. Always encourage your child.
- ❖ **Do not dwell on negative contributions; concentrate on the positive contributions of your child in games or training. Be your child's best fan.**
- ❖ Must not dwell on any problems with a member of staff, in particular a coach.
- ❖ **Do not criticise your child's coach in front of other parents or other coaches. If the complaint is of a serious nature please contact our Child Liaison Officer Jamie Douglas.**
- ❖ Must not criticise any player.
- ❖ **Ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions and has the correct footwear, shin pads and drinks.**
- ❖ Must make the coach aware of any pre-existing medical condition and make available any prescribed medicines during your child's presence at LYFC.
- ❖ **If you have any concerns about your child and need to speak to the coach please do so at the proper time. If it is in relation to a game, allow for a cooling off period. You must wait until 48 hours after the end of the game.**
- ❖ Should encourage players to conform to any dietary advice of LYFC.
- ❖ **Respect the decisions and team selection of the team Coach. These are the sole responsibility of the Coach whose decision is final.**
- ❖ Should make sure the player is in bed early the night before a game and early enough on other nights to ensure adequate rest is being taken.
- ❖ **Help your child keep their priorities correct. Your child obviously and most importantly needs to maintain a focus on schoolwork, relationships and other things in life besides football. However, you and your child have made a commitment to LYFC so help your child to honour that commitment.**
- ❖ Help your child focus on their performance not the result. Winning is not as important as the performance.
- ❖ **If the behaviour of any adult associated with any team player is considered to fall below the required standard, this may result in the membership of that player being suspended or cancelled, regardless of ability.**

## PLAYERS:

- ❖ **Remember you are representing LYFC and whilst a player at LYFC you are asked to behave in a manner which will not bring into disrepute yourself, parents/guardians, colleagues, team mates or the club.**
- ❖ Arrive for training and match days at the correct time. If you are delayed or are unable to attend, inform your coach or another club official.
- ❖ **Dress appropriately for the weather conditions and have the correct footwear, shin pads and drinks.**
- ❖ MUST wear LYFC leisure wear on training and match days.
- ❖ **Prepare clean boots and shin pads and have a nutritional meal before every game and as part of a healthy eating plan which can be provided by your local GP.**
- ❖ Jewellery must not be worn at matches or training for safety reasons.
- ❖ **Must abide by the rules of the game.**
- ❖ Complaints in respect of the running of a game must be dealt with by the team Coach. It is not acceptable for individuals to take matters into their own hands.
- ❖ **Respect the decisions and team selection of the team Coach. These are the sole responsibility of the Coach whose decision is final.**
- ❖ Players must appreciate the importance of striving to win rather than winning itself.
- ❖ **Swearing, bullying, fighting will not be tolerated and the offending party will be disciplined.**
- ❖ At no time will the consumption of alcohol, tobacco or drugs be acceptable at any age level and if apprehended the offending player will be disciplined.
- ❖ **At all times show respect to your coaches, colleagues, team mates, opposition, and match officials.**
- ❖ Players should make every effort to improve their own skills and technique.
- ❖ **Treat the dressing and training areas as you would your own home, i.e. no damage to the property, all litter collected, particularly empty bottles, tape etc and placed in the appropriate bins.**
- ❖ At training and games it is accepted that the player will not enter the dressing areas until the appropriate time or until his/her coach is present.
- ❖ **Players must accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance during training and match days and ensure that they represent LYFC in a positive way.**

## COACHES:

- ❖ Coaches have to be aware that most of their everyday actions and decisions have ethical implications.
- ❖ **It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches and this code of conduct is not intended to conflict with that, however, the club expects coaches to disassociate themselves from a 'win at all costs' mentality.**
- ❖ All Coaches have to accept the responsibility involved in coaching both younger and senior people where health, safety, welfare and moral standards are paramount in their development.

### Coaches should always:

- ❖ Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
- ❖ **Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this, rather than personal interests.**
- ❖ Avoid all forms of Gamesmanship.
- ❖ **Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game.**
- ❖ Always have regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the Game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
- ❖ **Do not use or tolerate bad language.**
- ❖ Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person.
- ❖ **Each person must be treated equally within the context of the sport.**
- ❖ Working relationships with players must be based on mutual trust and respect.
- ❖ **Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the Club/Team and obtain the best results for the team whilst maintaining the club's focus on player development.**
- ❖ Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests.
- ❖ **Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques.**
- ❖ Promote ethical principles.
- ❖ **Show due respect for the interests of players, coaches and officials, of both their own club/team and others.**
- ❖ Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- ❖ **Ensure that any activity is appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the player.**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT – PARENTS/PLAYERS/COACHES:**

Social Media (Facebook, Whatsapp, Instagram etc) continues to grow in popularity in today's society and can provide our club and individuals with a range of benefits. It allows people to connect instantly and can enable clubs to send information to a wider audience with relative ease.

Whatsapp for instance if used by individual age groups/teams can be helpful to send information to the squad as a whole. Details regarding fixture venues, times, late changes to games / training etc can be sent instantly and the coach can be aware of who has read the message.

Lisburn Youth FC have no issue with social media being used by our coaches / parents as long as it is used responsibly.

Players/ Parents /Coaches (all connected to Lisburn Youth FC) should behave in an appropriate and professional manner online.

### **The following behaviour will not be tolerated:**

- ❖ Posting defamatory posts or statuses about players, teams, parents or volunteers of any Club
- ❖ **Commenting on the values and practices of any Club or League on social media**
- ❖ Players/ Parents /Coaches (all connected to Lisburn Youth FC) should use messaging apps (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram) for purposes beneficial to themselves and the Club. Abusive messages about players, teams, parents or volunteers of any Club are unacceptable.
- ❖ **Never post, share or like messages , images or videos which are abusive, discriminatory or sexually explicit – all three of these are illegal and you could find yourself in trouble with the police. The club will obviously have the severest of punishments for anyone found guilty of carrying out any of the above.**
- ❖ Think carefully before you like or share what other people post online. Once you do this you become associated with the post even if you were not the original author. Think if you want the club associated with any post.
- ❖ **If you see or receive a post that is derogatory to a player, parent, coach of Lisburn Youth FC do not respond to such a comment. Report this to the club who can take the matter further via the League, appropriate club, governing body or Police depending on the nature of the post.**
- ❖ If parents have any issues regarding their own child/age group please do not view these through a group Whatsapp forum. Please speak directly to the coach / club official on a private and confidential basis.





# Lisburn Youth Football Club

## CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

### PARENT:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ the parent/guardian of your player  
\_\_\_\_\_ hereby confirm that I have read, understand  
and will abide by the Lisburn Youth FC Code of Conduct and will encourage my family to do so.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

### PLAYER:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ a playing member of Lisburn Youth FC  
hereby confirm that I have read, understand and will abide by the Lisburn Youth FC Code of  
Conduct and will encourage my family to do so.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

### COACHES:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ a coach for Lisburn Youth FC hereby  
confirm that I have read, understand and will abide by the Lisburn Youth FC Code of Conduct and  
will encourage my players to do so.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_