



Belsouth Football Club Codes of Conduct

This Code of Conduct outlines the behaviours and standards required for all Belsouth Football Club Members including:

- *Players;*
- *Parents/Carers;*
- *Coaches and Managers;*
- *Referees; and*
- *Committee Members.*

*The **purpose** of this Code of Conduct is to ensure the enjoyment of football for all participants across the Belsouth Football Club community, by promoting an environment of safety, respect, inclusiveness and professionalism.*

The club Executive reserves the right to suspend or cancel a membership and/or registration, or restrict access to match days or events for any Member who behaves in a manner deemed by the Executive to be in breach of this Code of Conduct.

1. General Member Behaviour

Prohibited conduct

1.1 A Member must not engage in any of the following conduct in connection with any football match, training or event:

- (a) offensive behaviour, including offensive, obscene, abusive, provocative, indecent or insulting gestures, language or chanting;
- (b) physically assaulting another person;
- (c) provocation or incitement of hatred or violence;
- (d) intimidating another person or creating a hostile or unsafe environment;
- (e) damaging property;
- (f) any involvement in spectator, supporter or crowd violence;
- (g) any other conduct that brings, or may bring, Belsouth Football Club into disrepute.

Respect for officials

1.2 A Member must not engage in any abusive or disrespectful behaviour towards a football referee or match official under any circumstances.



Inclusive culture

1.3 A Member must contribute to an inclusive culture in the Belsouth community by showing respect for all members of the Belsouth and broader football community, regardless of gender, sexuality, ability, cultural background or religion.

Taking photographs or videos of children

1.4 Any Member taking photographs or videos of a child or children participating in a match, training or event should obtain permission from the child or children's parent or guardian before taking the photograph or video or sharing it in any form.

1.5 If a Coach or Manager wishes to video a match they should also inform the Coach or Manager of the opposing team in advance.

Information Technology

1.6 A Member must not use information technology to make a discriminatory or offensive post or comment about a football player, club, club official or match official.

Dogs

1.7 In accordance with ACT law, dogs (leashed or unleashed) are not permitted anywhere on or around the fields during any official club event, including matches, practice sessions, gala or presentation days and working bees, unless the dog is an assistance animal.

No-smoking and no-vaping policy

1.7 Belsouth is a smoke-free and vape-free environment at all official club events, including matches, practice sessions, gala or presentation days and working bees, noting in particular the position of coaches and managers as role-models for young footballers.

2. Player Behaviour

2.1 When representing Belsouth Football Club all players must:

- (a) Attend training and matches at the times advised by the club, coach or manager and give reasonable notice if unable to attend.
- (b) Play fairly, by the rules of the game and within the spirit of the game.
- (c) Wear only the approved Belsouth uniform/strip for all matches.
- (d) At all times show respect and appreciation for team-mates, opposing teams and clubs, match officials, coaches and managers and volunteers.
- (e) Not use alcohol, or banned or unauthorised drugs when playing or training.



3. Parent/Carer Behaviour

3.1 A parent or carer of an under-18 player within the Belsouth Football Club must:

- (a) Endeavour to deliver children to matches and training sessions on time and give reasonable notice if unable to attend.
- (b) Encourage children to play fairly, by the rules and within the spirit of the game and demonstrate good sports-person-ship by applauding good play for both teams.
- (c) Assist the club and team on match day as necessary, including by volunteering in the canteen and BBQ and helping with field dressing and undressing when required.
- (d) At all times respect and show appreciation for referees and match officials and teach children to do likewise.
- (e) Not attend any match or training session under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- (f) Not abuse any Committee Members or club officials in person or via electronic means including social media.

4. Coach and Manager Behaviour:

4.1 A person acting as coach or manager within the Belsouth Football Club must:

- (a) Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else.
- (b) Operate fairly, within the rules of the game and the spirit of the game, at all times promoting fair play over 'winning at any cost'.
- (c) Ensure all players wear only the approved Belsouth uniform/strip for all matches.
- (d) Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for decisions and actions.
- (e) Ensure any physical contact with a player is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- (f) Endeavour to help each player reach their potential, taking into account the skills, developmental stage and goals of the individual.
- (g) Not attend any match or training session under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- (h) Refrain from any form of personal or physical abuse of any Committee Member or club official, including via electronic means (eg social media).

5. Referee Behaviour

5.1 A person acting as a referee, game leader or other match official within the Belsouth Football Club must:

- (a) Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else.
- (b) Be impartial, consistent, objective and courteous when making and communicating decisions.
- (c) Keep up to date with the 'Laws of the Game' and principles of their application.



- (d) Swiftly manage unsporting behaviour and promote respect for players.
- (e) Give all players a “fair go” regardless of their gender, sexuality, ability, cultural background or religion.
- (f) Always demonstrate respect, remain loyal to and support other referees.
- (g) Refrain from any form of personal or physical abuse towards players or other referees.
- (h) Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance and ensure your comments are positive, supportive, and professional.
- (i) Not attend any match or training session under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

6. Committee Behaviour

6.1 A person holding a position as a Committee Member within the Belsouth Football Club must:

- (a) Always represent the club in a professional manner.
- (b) Always consider the welfare of the club’s members above on-field success.
- (c) Attend Committee meetings on time or forward their apology prior to the meeting.
- (d) Treat all people associated with the club, including Members, sponsors, other Committee Members and visitors with respect.
- (e) Attend to their responsibility to ensure the club meets its legal obligations.
- (f) Make decisions based on what is best for the club, not for individual interest or gain.
- (g) Not take advantage of their position on the Committee in any way.
- (h) Declare any Conflicts of Interest and act to ensure that these conflicts do not pose a risk to the organisation.
- (i) Be open to feedback from Members and endeavour to respond appropriately.
- (j) Maintain professional and respectful working relationship with football governing bodies, Capital Football and Football Australia.