



# **Code of Conduct**

**2024-25**

## **FOREWORD - SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CODES OF CONDUCT**

The Scottish Football Association is justifiably proud of the long history that the game has played in this Country. The past 130 years have witnessed significant achievements and created lifelong memories for hundreds of thousands of people. To ensure that Scottish Football plays a significant part of our future for the next 130 years we need to be smarter about the way we preserve the traditions and values of our game.

One of the critical components of our game is the passion that people show for the team and club that they support. Whilst this passion is usually harnessed and used to support our game, it sometimes can boil over to create negative situations. We must all work together in the attempt to eliminate this negative passion. Codes of Conduct are an integral component of footballing activities and the following codes compliment the good work of the many football bodies in Scotland.

All Members of your club or association must adopt Member specific codes and the SFA encourages Members to be vigilant in enforcing such codes whether via support for those who constantly abide by the codes and / or penalties for those who fail to act in accordance with the codes.

Note that a Code of Conduct should support a club's constitution and may be used to replace what some clubs refer to as club rules. Secondly, Fair Play must be fundamental to the aims and objectives of the club, where it is crucial to ensure that all members, officials and volunteers abide by the rules, respect everyone and maintain high standards of sportsmanship at all times.

### **SFA STATEMENT**

The SFA values the role of sport and its contribution to overall human development by providing good quality footballing opportunities in a safe and positive environment. The SFA promote personal, professional, and social well-being through footballing experiences, regardless of an individual's socio-economic status, age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation. The SFA Codes of Conduct set minimum standards of best practice for all clubs, coaches, players, parents / carers and volunteers involved in football in Scotland. We must all aim to improve standards and protect the welfare and wellbeing of everyone involved in Football, in particular young footballers and those who are vulnerable. We must all strive to embody values, virtues, and standards of excellence appropriate to the club setting. Ultimately, we must actively pursue our goals, realising the importance of our own, and our fellow participant's commitment to uphold ethical duties and social responsibilities to others.

## **Bo'ness Athletic Football Club – Code of Conduct for Team Management**

Bo'ness Athletic Football Club fully supports the codes of conduct as introduced by the Scottish Football Association.

### **Team Management Code of Conduct**

- Respect the rights, dignity & worth of every player and treat everyone equally within the context of football;
- Place safety and well-being of the player above the development of performance;
- Always pursue fair play;
- Ensure that coaching sessions are enjoyable, well-structured and focus on developing skills, decision making and a general understanding of the game;
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with players based on mutual trust and respect;
- Encourage players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance;
- Ensure that sessions are appropriate for the experience and ability of the individual;
- Must consistently display high standards of appearance and behaviour;
- Know where to find appropriate first-aid;
- Must not use social media sites such as Facebook or Twitter to post any defamatory remarks regarding players, club officials, match officials, opponents, other coaches, colleagues or the SFA;
- No club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA shall bet in any way on a football match (except authorised and registered football pools);
- Must adhere to the anti-doping guidance published by the SFA.

By registering as a coach with Bo'ness Athletic Football Club, Team Management agree to abide by these principles and support the Club in its undertakings and encourage the Club to take any necessary disciplinary actions, where warranted, of any coaches, players, officials, volunteers or spectators for repeated or serious breaches of these Codes of Conduct.

## **Bo'ness Athletic Football Club – Code of Conduct for Players**

Bo'ness Athletic Football Club fully supports the codes of conduct as introduced by the Scottish Football Association.

### **Players Code of Conduct**

- Players are expected to follow all guidelines and rules laid down by the code of conduct;
- Respect and look after all training and playing areas at all times;
- Play because you enjoy football not to please anyone else;
- Players must accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance during training and match days, and ensure that they represent Bo'ness Athletic Football Club in a positive way;
- Play by the rules and never argue with the match officials;
- Players must consistently display high standards of behaviour;
- Players must always adhere to the positive aspects of the sport and show respect to match officials, opposing players, opposing managers and supporters;
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted;
- Work equally hard for yourself and for your team, your team's performance will benefit and so will you;
- Be a good sport, applaud all good play whether it be by your team, or by your opponents;
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated yourself, do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another player;
- Co-operate with your manager / coach, team-mates and opponents – without them there would be no football match;
- Players must appreciate the importance of striving to win, not winning it-self.
- Players should make every effort consistent with fair play and the laws of the game, to help his team win;
- Players should accept success and failure, victory and defeat equally;
- Players should make every effort to improve their own skills and technique;
- Players should make every effort to attend club training sessions;
- Must not use social media sites such as Facebook or Twitter to post any defamatory remarks regarding players, club officials, match officials, opponents, other coaches, colleagues or the SFA;
- Must adhere to the anti-doping guidance published by the SFA;
- No club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA shall bet in any way on a football match (except authorised and registered football pools).

By Registering for Bo'ness Athletic Football Club, Players understand that if they behave in a way which endangers others or causes embarrassment to Bo'ness Athletic Football Club then they will be subject to the Football Club's discipline. This could lead to:

- Not being allowed to play or train for Bo'ness Athletic Football Club;
- Being banned from training and/or playing for a set period.

Players are responsible for looking after all equipment and clothing provided by Bo'ness Athletic Football Club and agree to return all Bo'ness Athletic Football Club equipment at the end of contracted season or on transfer.

## **Bo'ness Athletic Football Club – Code of Conduct for Officials/Members and Volunteers**

Bo'ness Athletic Football Club fully supports the codes of conduct as introduced by the Scottish Football Association.

### **Members/Officials and Volunteers Code of Conduct**

- Consider the safety and well-being of players, coaches, officials, volunteers and spectators before performance;
- Set a good example for others, in particular, young members of the club;
- Follow the guidelines laid down by the Scottish Football Association and the Club;
- Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, in particular providing a safety-first approach;
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship;
- Show respect to match official, coaches, players and other volunteers;
- Always pursue fair play;
- Prohibit use of camcorders and cameras unless parental consent has been provided;
- Be aware of the SFA's and the Club's Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures;
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with coaches, members, players and volunteers based on mutual trust and respect;
- Encourage players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance;
- Must consistently display high standards of appearance and behaviour;
- Know where to find appropriate first-aid;
- Promote ethical principles;
- Never use social media sites such as Facebook or Twitter to post any defamatory remarks regarding players, club officials, match officials, opponents, other coaches, colleagues or the SFA;
- Must adhere to the anti-doping guidance published by the SFA;
- No club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA shall bet in any way on a football match (except authorised and registered football pools).

By being an official/member or volunteer with Bo'ness Athletic Football Club, persons agree to abide by these principles. They support the Club in its undertakings and encourage the Club to take any necessary disciplinary actions, where warranted, of any coaches, players, or spectators for repeated or serious breaches of these Codes of Conduct.

### **DOCUMENT CONTROL**

**Mandatory Review Date** (to be reviewed and published annually)

**Review Date** – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025