



Parents / Spectators Code of Conduct

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Parents have a significant influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. Children play football because they first and foremost love the game – it's FUN. Remember children's football is a time for them to develop and learn. We want them to win but not at all costs. Play your part by supporting your child, supporting the FAI's Player Development Plan and observe the Code of Conduct at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN.
- Applaud effort and good play.
- Always respect the match officials' decisions.
- Remain outside the field of play or within the Designated Spectators' Areas.
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do.
- Encourage your child, and others, or be quiet. Praise effort and performance, not results.
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and officials.
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning.
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.
- Develop an appropriate supportive relationship with both the coach and my child based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure to communicate with appropriate notice to your child's coach if they are unavailable to attend training and especially a match. Notice should be given as early as possible if a child is unwell or injured or unavailable – this is very important as coaches may have difficulty in fielding teams when faced with an unexpected absence and there are procedures to be followed.
- Support the coach's decisions and discuss any concerns directly with the coach.
- Watch and be familiar with the Coach/Parents Education Video on www.fai.ie.
- If there is an issue that needs to be addressed, please speak with the coach in the first instance; this should be only done after a training session or match and NEVER during the coach's time with the children, be it training or a match. If this is not resolved to your satisfaction, then contact the Clubs Child Welfare Officer, Gary O'Brien, to discuss your issues and any appropriate action will be taken. Gary can be contacted by emailing lakewoodafcchildwelfare@gmail.com