



Barnagore, Co. Cork  
<https://lakewoodafc.ie/>  
[lakewoodafcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lakewoodafcsecretary@gmail.com)

## Welcome Pack and Induction to YOUR Club

I would like to welcome you to Lakewood Athletic FC, Cork, please take the time to read this welcome pack and thank you for choosing Lakewood AFC as your club.

As a member of Lakewood Athletic FC, it is important you become familiar with our club codes of conduct for all players, coaches, and parents, that all our members are expected to comply with, to ensure a safe and friendly environment for all.

If you are joining us in a volunteer capacity, firstly a big thank you! Without volunteers our club cannot exist, your time is greatly appreciated. We will be in touch with you regarding the process of Garda Vetting and to enrol you on a FAI Child Awareness Course, if not completed already.

We hope this is the start of your lifelong journey with Lakewood Athletic FC and we wish you every success.

Kind regards,

Joe Keane  
Chairperson

**Club Officers:** Joe Keane (Chair); Valerie Leahy (Secretary); Fergus Buckley (Treasurer/Schoolboys Secretary); Noel Mullins (Youth's & Men's Secretary / Facilities); Aoife Kelliher (Schoolgirls & Women's Secretary); Derek Sheehan (Boys Academy Coordinator); Emma Martin (Girls Academy Coordinator); Melanie Walsh (Compliance Officer); Gary O'Brien (Child Welfare Officer)



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## Players Code of Conduct

As players are constantly in the glare of public attention and are widely recognised as the most important people in the sport, there is a considerable onus upon them to speak and act in a manner which promotes all that is good about the game and the club.

As a player, I will:

- Make every honest effort to develop my sporting ability, to include fitness, skill, technique and tactical ability.
- Strive to set a positive example for younger players and supporters.
- Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and where possible help injured opponents.
- Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during each game.
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship, and time wasting.
- Refrain from using inappropriate language particularly to referees/officials and other players.
- Make every effort consistent with fair play and the laws of the game to help my team win.
- Abide by the laws, rules of the game and of any given competition, both in fact and in spirit.
- Accept victory and defeat with equanimity.
- Resist any temptation to consume or otherwise imbibe any banned substances.
- Treat opponents with respect at all times.
- Demonstrate due respect towards match officials.
- Accept the decisions of the match officials without protest.
- Avoid words or actions which may mislead a match official.
- Abide by the lawful instructions and directions of mentors and team officials.
- Act towards the mentors and officials of the opposing side in a respectful manner.
- Demonstrate due regard for the interest of supporters.
- Not act or speak so as to incite or encourage supporters to act in a way that may endanger the safety of anyone attending or participating in the game.
- Not either directly or indirectly place a bet on the outcome of any game in which I am involved.

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- Have regard to the best interests of the game when publicly expressing an opinion on the game or on others involved in the game.
- Accept responsibility for all fines imposed on me as a player, subject to an appeal to the club committee.
- In making public comments on a particular fixture or on the game in general, be mindful of upholding and promoting the good name of the game and others involved in it in the wider community.

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## Coaches / Mentors Code of Conduct

Coaches/Mentors are critical to the establishment of good practices in football. Their attitude to the game directly informs the attitude of the players under their supervision. Coach/Mentors must speak and act in a manner consistent with this reality.

### As a Coach/Mentor I will:

- Complete Garda Vetting before commencing my role and I will complete the safeguarding 1 course.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each person and treat each person equally within the context of the sport.
- Not subscribe to the ethos of “win at all costs”.
- Place the health, well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations.
- Abide by the rules of the game.
- Strive to develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual respect.
- Have particular regard for the code when working with young players in the game.
- Not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Ensure that the activities and strategies they direct and advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players involved.
- Clarify with the players (and where the players are under the age of 18, their parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from the Mentor.
- Co-operate with specialists within the game e.g. other coaches, officials, sport scientists, doctors, and physiotherapists, etc. in the best interest of players.
- Be conversant with the laws of the game and the rules of any competition in which a team under his/her stewardship is participating.
- Encourage players to adhere to the club’s code.
- Observe the highest standards of integrity and fair dealing.
- Promote a positive approach to the game e.g., fair play, honest endeavour and genuine teamwork.
- Not encourage or condone violations of the laws of the game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the game, or the use of questionable strategies or tactics.

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- Not encourage or condone the use of prohibited substances.
- Consistently display high standards of behaviour and comment.
- Never use or tolerate the use of inappropriate language.
- Demonstrate due respect towards match officials.
- Accept the decisions of the match officials.

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## 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](http://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

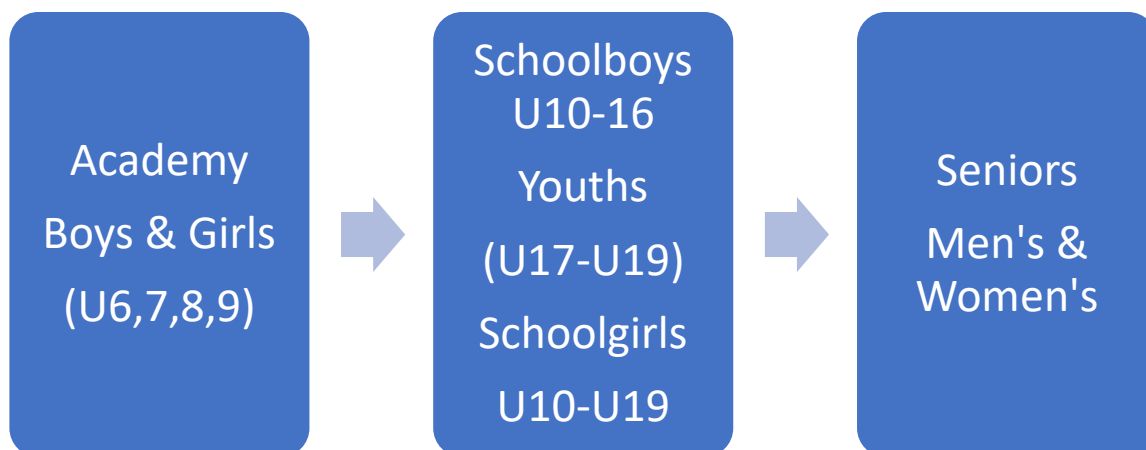
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your satisfaction, then contact the Clubs Child Welfare Officer, Gary O'Brien, to discuss your issues and any appropriate action will be taken. Gary can be contacted by emailing [lakewoodafcchildwelfare@gmail.com](mailto:lakewoodafcchildwelfare@gmail.com)

## Club Structure:



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