

Fair Play Code Guidelines



LET'S CALL TIME
on bad behaviour in sport



Introduction



The Fair Play Code outlines the standards of behaviour expected for everyone involved in sport and active recreation in Victoria.

The Victorian Government is committed to improving the integrity of Victoria's sport and active recreation sector.

The Fair Play Code encourages appropriate standards of behaviour to enable every Victorian to be involved in safe, welcoming and inclusive sport and active recreation. The Code is guided by the five principles of Integrity, Safety, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility. It provides an overview of the expected behaviours for everyone involved in sport and active recreation in Victoria.

All Victorian sport and active recreation organisations should incorporate the Code into their code

of conduct, member protection and child safeguarding policies, constitution and other governance policies and documentation. State sporting associations and active recreation bodies, associations, leagues or clubs in Victoria must demonstrate adherence to the **Fair Play Code** to be eligible for Victorian Government Funding.

To maintain the integrity of Victorian sport and active recreation, it is vital that all relevant organisations commit to the Principles of the **Fair Play Code**.



Responsibilities

FAIR PLAY CODE  Integrity	Audience	Community Member	Abide by the Code when attending community sport and recreation, training and club sanctioned activities. Be informed about what actions to take if involved in, or a witness to, a potential breach of the Code.
		Spectator	Abide by the Code when attending community sport and recreation, training and club sanctioned activities. Be informed about what actions to take for a potential breach of the Code.
		Parent	Educate children about the importance of demonstrating Code behaviours and model these behaviours at all times. Be informed about what actions to take for a potential breach of the Code.
 Respect	Participant	Official or Volunteer	Be informed about, abide by, promote and recognise compliance with the Code. Report a potential breach of the Code to appropriate authorities.
		Player or Participant	Be informed about the implications of the Code on participation, rights and obligations and abide by the Code. Ask a club official about Code implementation.
 Responsibility	Organiser	Local Council	Provide access to and encourage promotion of the Code to member clubs and the local community. Ensure sport and recreation clubs who are tenants at a facility are Code compliant.
		State Sporting Association & Recreation Body	Ensure the Code is incorporated into governance documents. Establish complaint handling processes and sanctions for breaches of the Code. Ensure all involved have access to, and are aware of obligations and rights under the Code. Demonstrate Code compliance to be eligible for Victorian Government funding.
		Sport & Recreation Associations, Leagues and Clubs	Include the Code in association/league/club new member welcome pack. Adopt, promote and establish processes to comply with and enforce, the Code. Ensure members have access to, and agree to abide by the Code. Demonstrate Code compliance to be eligible for Sport and Recreation Victoria funding.
 Fairness			
 Safety			

Further information

- Sport Integrity Australia
- Vicsport
- Play by the Rules
- Commission for Children and Young People
- Sport Australia
- Victorian Government

Principles

The Fair Play Code outlines a set of guiding principles on expected standards of behaviour for every person involved in sport and active recreation in Victoria.

This includes every player, participant, coach, support person, official, administrator, club member, spectator, parent, volunteer or member of the public involved with sport and active recreation in Victoria. All should demonstrate the principles of integrity, respect, responsibility, fairness and safety in everything they do.



Integrity

- being honest, fair, respectful, trustworthy, reliable, open and transparent in dealings with others
- avoiding any real or perceived conflicts of interest
- striving to earn and sustain a high level of community trust and goodwill
- not engaging in, or advocating the possession and use of banned performance enhancing substances or methods, or illicit drugs
- not participating in, or encouraging action that may jeopardise the integrity of sport and active recreation including match-fixing, illegal sports betting and other forms of corruption.



Respect

- treating everyone involved in sport and active recreation in a considerate, objective and courteous manner with proper regard for their rights, dignity and worth
- refraining from any form of discrimination, harassment, bullying, abuse, child abuse, intimidation, victimisation or vilification of others, including on the basis of age, race, sex, disability, sexuality, gender identity or religion
- recognising and valuing the contribution of all to sport and active recreation, including volunteer coaches, officials and administrators who give up their valuable time to make sport and active recreation possible.



Responsibility

- considering and accepting the consequences of one's actions and decisions
- being a positive role model by displaying self-control, respect, care and diligence towards all involved in sport and active recreation
- complying with the Victorian Child Safe Standards (2022)
- understanding the consequences of Fair Play Code breaches and reporting as appropriate.



Fairness

- understanding and playing by the rules and in the spirit of sport and active recreation
- being informed, consistent, impartial, just and reasonable in dealings with others
- being a 'good sport' by encouraging and praising fair play over winning at all costs
- ensuring a 'fair go' for people of all abilities to be involved in sport and active recreation.



Safety

- providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment that places the health, welfare and wellbeing of participants above all else
- taking all reasonable steps to ensure equipment, facilities and programs meet health and safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of participants
- being aware of and supporting policies and practices in relation to injury management, return to play, adverse weather and member protection and child safeguarding
- showing concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured and immediately reporting any safety issues to appropriate authorities.

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For more information visit
www.sport.vic.gov.au/fair-play-code

