

Policy Name: Code of conduct

Policy No: BHFC01

Issue Date: 07-May-2024

Previous Issue Date: 18-Dec-2023

Revision No: 03

Next Revision Date: 18-Dec-2025



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1. Purpose and Scope

The Burnside Heights Football Club Inc (BHFC) fully supports the codes of conduct as introduced by the Essendon District Football League (EDFL), AFL and AFL Victoria.

2. Policy

The BHFC code of conduct policy is mandatory and enforceable for coaches, players, club non-player members, parents, supporters and officials. The BHFC code of conduct is required to be read in conjunction with all of the BHFC policies and procedures.

The BHFC may take disciplinary action against coaches, players, club non-player members, parents, supporters and officials where it is determined there has been:

- Failure to comply with the BHFC Incorporated Association Model Rules (Model Rules)
- Failure to support the BHFC for the purposes of the Model Rules
- Engaged in conduct prejudicial to the BHFC
- Any other conduct outlined in this policy or any other BHFC policy and procedure or as determined by the BHFC

Coaches Code of Conduct

- Coaches are required to sign the AFL Code of Conduct as part of the Level 1 Accreditation requirement. All coaches must be accredited to coach in our League. The coaches code of conduct can be viewed at <http://www.aflcommunity.com.au/index.php?id=168>

Players Code of Conduct

- Play by the rules – the rules of your club and the laws of the game.
- Never argue with an umpire or other official – without these people there is no game.
- Control your temper - verbal abuse of officials and sledging of other players doesn't help you enjoy or win any games.
- Be a team player – It's a team game, treat it that way.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated – fairly.
- Co-operate with your coach, the umpires and team-mates.
- Play for your own enjoyment & to improve your skills.
- Don't use ugly remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability – you'll let down your coach, team-mates and family if you do. Many such comments are illegal.

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Parents and Supporters Code of Conduct

- Remember that you are there for the participants to enjoy the game.
- Encourage participation, but don't force it.
- Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning.
- Never ridicule mistakes or losses – supporters are there to support not downgrade.
- Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires and spectators – physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Respect all volunteers who are giving up their valuable time.
- Never publicly criticise umpires – raise personal concerns with club officials in private.
- Don't use ugly remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability – you'll let down your family and yourself if you do – & many such comments are illegal.
- Acknowledge and support all club policies, For example; Smoke Free Policy and Alcohol Policy By registering your child with the Burnside Heights Football Club you agree to abide by these principles. You support the Club in its undertakings and encourage the Club to take any necessary disciplinary actions including the suspension and banning where warranted of any players, parents and or spectators for repeated or serious breaches of these Codes of Conduct.

Disciplinary Sub-Committee

The BHFC Committee is responsible for appointing a Disciplinary Sub-Committee (DISC) and approving the DISC terms of reference. The DISC will be made up of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and two (2) other sitting members of the Club's Committee. It must include either of the Club's President and/or Vice President. A quorum shall consist of three (3) members, one of whom must be either the Chairperson and/or Vice Chairperson.

The DISC shall be responsible to the BHFC Executive Committee for all matters relating to the inquiry, and outcome, of all disciplinary matters involving BHFC.

The DISC shall be responsible for all issues, including but not limited to, any investigations or complaints raised against an opposition Club member, or affiliate of the BHFC.

If the DISC is to investigate a matter concerning a member of the Executive Committee of BHFC, then two (2) Members will be asked to join the DISC to deal with the investigation.

Where a report is given by the BHFC DISC and the complaint requires a member, coach, player, parent or supporter to attend a panel hearing, the BHFC designated Wellbeing Officer will also take a lead role in the inquiry as support person to whom the complaint was made.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

**President
Vice President**

Authorised By: Burnside Heights Football Club Committee