

- h) Any player receiving four Yellow Cards in a season will receive a one-match suspension. Any player receiving six Yellow Cards in a season will receive a two-match suspension. Players should not stand down unless advised to do so by P & D Chairman. There is no appeal against Yellow Cards.
- i) Any player who receives more than six Yellow Cards in a season may be cited to appear at next P & D meeting.
- j) All players have the right of appeal within 7 days.
- k) All suspensions must be served in the next game[s] played by the player's registered team. A player sent off in a 1pm game cannot play in the 3pm game, but that 3pm game does not count towards any automatic suspension
- l) Players who play whilst suspended shall receive a one-match suspension for each game played whilst suspended, in addition to the suspension already imposed.
- m) Forms on which a club official acting as referee records Send-offs and Cautions is attached to this manual. A form must be completed by the person who refereed the game, regardless of whether that person was or was not appointed to the game by KDFRA

1.3.2 Code of Conduct

For the benefit of all participants and their enjoyment of the game of football, all players, managers, coaches, club officials and spectators must exhibit good behaviour and comply with this code of conduct when they participate in competitions of the Association or carry out their duties for their team or club.

It is an offence to: -

- a) Use offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures.
- b) Use inflammatory language or gestures.
- c) Make unsporting remarks.
- d) Publish inflammatory, defamatory or unsporting remarks via any written or electronic media (eg: club newsletter or website or email)
- e) Bring the game into disrepute.
- f) Act in a manner that is prejudicial to any other participant, club or the Association.

Offenders will be cited to appear before the relevant competition sub-committee or MC of the Association.

1.3.2.1 Players

- a. Play by the rules.
- b. Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- c. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- d. Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, and so will you.
- e. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether your team or the opposition makes them.
- f. Treat all participants in your sport, as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- g. Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- h. Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- i. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

1.3.2.2 Coaches

- a. Remember that people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- b. Never ridicule or yell at a player for making a mistake or not coming first.
- c. Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- d. Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport and teach your players to do the same.
- e. Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience. All people are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- f. Avoid overplaying the talented players; the "just average" need and deserve equal time.
- g. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- h. Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage players to do the same.
- i. Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- j. Show concern and caution toward sick and injured
- k. Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- l. Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- m. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- n. No one is to stand on or behind the goal line.

1.3.2.3 Officials

- a. Compliment and encourage all participants.
- b. Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- c. Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- d. Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- e. Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- f. Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of people.
- g. Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- h. Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- i. Give all people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion

1.3.2.4 Spectators

- a. Remember that people participate in sport for their enjoyment and benefit, not yours.
- b. Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams. Congratulate all participants on their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- c. Respect the decisions of officials and teach players to do the same.
- d. Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- e. Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.

- f. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- g. Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials' decisions.
- h. Do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches or officials.
- i. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- j. No one is to stand on or behind the goal line.

1.3.3 Sport Rage

Action against "Sport Rage" is an initiative of the NSW Department of Sport & Recreation and is fully supported by the KDSA.

Sport rage can come in many forms – an unruly supporter abusing a referee, a player punching another player, or a spectator shouting racial taunts.

These moments of madness can result in serious injuries, disciplinary action and even lifetime bans.

Dealing with sport rage is now a major challenge for clubs. Not only does sport rage reflect badly on the clubs involved, it can deter participation at all levels.

It is important that everyone involved in sport unites to combat sport rage.

1.3.4 Preventing sport rage: Tips for players

While sport rage is often the result of many factors, players can help reduce incidents by creating a positive sporting environment. Players should consider the following four points: -

Be a good sport

- Remember the principles of fair play – respect, integrity and fairness.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- If you win, don't rub it in.
- If you lose, don't make excuses.
- If you make a mistake, learn from it and be ready to play on.
- If a team member makes a mistake, offer encouragement not criticism.
- Control your temper, - don't use bad language or harass others.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and officials.
- Learn the rules of the game and abide by them.
- Visit www.playbytherules.net.au to learn more about fair play.

Respect your opponent

- Treat your opponent the way you would like to be treated.
- Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances for both teams.
- Don't sledge or make any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- Don't bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Always thank the referee at the end of the game.

Respect officials

- Accept and respect the referee's decision.
- Always thank the referee at the end of the game.
- If you have an issue with a decision, raise it in controlled and professional way with the coach or your captain.

Uphold the code of conduct

- Support and uphold the code of conduct for players.
- Don't drink alcohol at matches or arrive at the field intoxicated.

1.3.5 Preventing Sport Rage: Tips for Supporters

While sport rage is often the result of many factors, supporters can help reduce incidents by being good role models and helping to create a positive sporting environment. Supporters should consider the following points:

- **Keep your emotions in check:** While some sideline emotion can be well intentioned, always consider the impact this is having. Bad behaviour, such as abusing an official or ridiculing the opposition, is unacceptable.
- **Respect for coaches:** Coaches and team managers play an essential role in providing a sporting experience. Without them there would be no team and no game, so show respect for the people in these roles.
- **Respect for referees and officials:** Referees and other officials are there to help make the game fair and more enjoyable for everyone. But they are human and may occasionally make mistakes. Your behaviour toward officials will affect the attitude of players. Supporters should never approach the official directly. If you have an issue raise it in a controlled and professional way with the coach or club administrator.

1.3.5.1 Upholding the code of conduct

It is important you understand, support and uphold the supporter's code of conduct. Your club is entitled to enforce this code. For example, while it may not be a criminal offence for a spectator to verbally taunt an opposition team, such behaviour may well breach the code of conduct and disciplinary action may be taken.

1.3.5.2 Dealing with Sport Rage

Despite everyone's best intentions, sport rage incidents sometimes occur. While it is mainly the responsibility of ground officials and club committee members to deal with incidents, it is important that everyone understands and supports the process. Here are some of the steps that can be taken, depending on the seriousness of the incident: -

- **Reporting inappropriate behaviour – Responsibility of everyone:** Behaviour that contravenes the codes of conduct should be reported to the ground official. Any person who is unsure who the ground official is should report the incident to a club committee member.
- **Approaching the offender – Responsibility of the ground official/club committee member:** Only the ground official or club committee member should approach the offender.
- **Issuing warnings – Responsibility of the club committee/ground official :**The first time a person breaches a code of conduct, they might be issued with a warning. The person may not be aware that their behaviour is unacceptable and should be notified of club rules.
- **Taking disciplinary action – Responsibility of the club committee member:** The club committee should consider taking disciplinary action in accordance with its rules if the conduct is repeated or of a serious nature. This might result in counselling, suspension or expulsion.
- **Removing people from the field of play or venue – Responsibility of the ground official/club committee:** The referee should communicate directly and immediately with the ground official to remove a person from the field. If the club is in a position to control ground entry, it will be able to evict persons from the ground. Where attendance is not controlled, clubs can request offenders leave the venue, or otherwise can discipline the person for the breach of the code of conduct.

- **Suspending play** – Responsibility of the referee: The referee may suspend play and refuse to restart until appropriate action has been taken. They may request that a person is removed from the sideline and, in serious cases, abandon the game altogether.
- **Involving the police** – Responsibility of the ground official/club committee: If you feel the behaviour of an individual constitutes a criminal act the police should be notified immediately by the ground official. While it is lawful for a club to detain a person who has committed a criminal offence until the police arrive, it is recommended that this is done only as a last resort. Club officials are able to exercise reasonable force in detaining a person who has committed a criminal offence until the police arrive, but this should not be disproportionate to the conduct of the offender.

1.3.6 Alcohol

Alcohol is not permitted on any ground at any time.

1.4 Grounds

1.4.1 Training

Training times are allocated by KDSA Grounds Controller in accordance with the requests received from your club. In the event the weather is doubtful all players should ring the Wet Weather number. If you train on grounds that are officially closed by the relevant Council, your club runs the risk of heavy fines or suspension. Councils close grounds to protect them, and KDSA fully supports this action.

1.4.2 Wet Weather Procedure

In the event the weather is doubtful all players are able to check the KDSA web site or ring the wet weather recorded message service **1 900 957 016**.

- after 7pm the night before games
- after 3pm on the day for training

1.4.3 Dressing

All clubs using full size fields are required to dress one or more fields. This may be delegated to teams on a rostered basis throughout the season. When it is your team's turn, please make sure that the field is dressed properly. A field without nets is a great inconvenience to players, and fines or other penalties will be incurred.

A field without corner posts is unplayable in accordance with football rules and officially appointed referees will not officiate at grounds without corner posts.

“Dressing” the ground also includes opening dressing rooms and ensuring that emergency access gates are open, including at non-competition grounds.

Clubs responsible for ground dressing are listed on the KDSA website.

1.4.4 Locations

Appear on the web site.

1.4.5 Ground Manager

Unless a Ground Manager has been appointed by the club responsible for dressing of that ground, the Team Manager should act as Ground Manager and be responsible for control of the clubs' players and supporters, and act upon referee's instructions.