

Victoria Park SC

Code of Conduct

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Revision

Revision	Date	Description	Author
1.0	1 Mar 2014	Draft for review and comment	Hannah George
2.0	14 Mar 2014	Final 2014 Season	Niki Ferreira
3.0	8 Jan 2016	Updated with comments	Peter Fletcher

Revision Frequency

This document and any related procedures is to be reviewed annually and finalised prior to commencement of each season.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This code of conduct aims to promote and strengthen the Club (Victoria Park SC Inc.) by establishing a standard of behaviour for all players, spectators, members and associates of the Club.

This document does not supersede or replace rules and policies applicable to specific leagues and competitions and should be read concurrently with any such documents (refer to Football West, Regulations and Policies <http://www.footballwest.com.au/index.php?id=195>).

General

All people and parties involved in the Club are to endorse, uphold, demonstrate, support and encourage the application of the Club's values both on and off the field, in the wider community and public forums including social media.

At all times we will follow the spirit of the game and uphold high standards of discipline and fair play.

It is of paramount importance that we respect officials and their decisions.

We will welcome all visitors to our pitch and Club rooms.

We acknowledge that the actions of all of our Club - players, members, spectators and associates - contribute to how we are perceived outside of the Club and the environment we create for each of us. We will encourage all of our Club to uphold our values and this Code of Conduct to create a Club which is well respected, we are proud of, and environment we enjoy and feel welcome and safe within.

Aggressive or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated.

Significant or repeated breaches will lead to disciplinary action which may include suspension or ejection from the club.

At all times we will be guided by our Vision and Values.

Vision

To provide a focal point for social, sporting, and community interaction that encourages a passion for health, family and self-development.

Values

The values that guide our decisions and activities are:

- Passion - for the game of football, for our club, and for our jersey.
- Accountability - whether we're shutting down an opposition player, delivering on a commitment made to a sponsor, or ensuring our members' funds are managed professionally we will always be accountable.
- Teamwork - on-field and off, we recognise that nothing great is achieved acting alone. We will always look to support and encourage one another.
- Community - we will act as responsible members of our local community and of a worldwide community that shares our passion for football.
- Fair play - we will always compete hard but we will do so within the rules of the game and within the spirit of the rules.

- Equality - we will treat all members, players, competitors and spectators as equals.
- Respect - we will show respect for each other, for officials and for our competitors.
- Discipline - we will show discipline on the training track, in the manner in which we play and in the way in which we manage the business of the club.

UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

Any conduct which comes into conflict with the Club's values is considered unacceptable and may be subject to disciplinary procedures. Actions which contravene the Club's values are considered to bring the Club into disrepute and put the Club's Vision and reputation at risk.

The highest conduct is expected when on the pitch, sideline or in club rooms or representing the Club formally or visibly such as wearing our apparel. If substandard conduct occurs outside the Club activities it may also be deemed unacceptable if the Club is linked to such conduct in any way, this is determined at the discretion of the Club.

Unacceptable conduct may include, but is not limited to:

- Foul language, racial insults, or other abusive behaviour;
- Aggressive behaviour, including threats or violent actions;
- Unexplained absence from a Match or official training session or team meeting;
- Attending Club activities in an unfit state, including presenting to play when intoxicated or under the influence;
- Disparaging public statements, verbal or social media communication which reflect negatively on the Club or other clubs;
- Betting, match fixing, corruption;
- Illegal activities in association with Club activities.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

These procedures will be refined over the life of the Club in line with best practice, experience and any change in requirements. Review of prior season will inform annual update to this document.

These disciplinary procedures do not preclude any incident being referred to the Police of Western Australia or another disciplinary body or league.

Raising an Incident

An incident may be raised automatically or at the discretion of Club officials.

Incidents that warrant an Automatic Referral includes:

- A complaint made by a match official, by an official from an opposing team or by a member of the public in writing or verbally to Club officials;
- An infringement notice issued by league, including formal sanctions such as a fine or suspension;
- Submission by a minimum of two (2) members for review of an incident, as submitted to any Club official.

Discretionary Referral includes:

- Any incident which Club officials consider a breach of this Code of Conduct.

- Where an individual brings to the attention of a committee member an alleged breach of this code.

Notice of Infringement

The incident will be reviewed by the Club administration and a notice of infringement issued, regardless of whether a penalty is imposed.

The infringement notice will include:

- reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
- notice of possible penalties (sanctions); and
- the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.

The party to the notice may dispute the ruling made within 10 business days of issue of notice.

Penalties (Sanctions)

Penalties may be Mandatory, or Discretionary depending on the infringement and the parties history in this regard.

Teams may also enforce their own practices for minor infringements such as extra warm up laps for being late, or small monetary payments (not to exceed \$10), this is at the discretion of the team and Club officials.

Precedent will be considered within the current season alone.

Penalties include:

- Warning, first or second;
- Fine (not to exceed \$100 or as imposed by league);
- Suspension from attendance, playing or otherwise;
- Expulsion from the team or club (provided that the Club has already enforced sanctions against the Player on at least 3 separate occasions).

Mandatory Penalties shall apply to offenses including:

- Racial vilification;
- Any offence involving a minor;
- Striking or physically threatening a match official;
- Any offense which is deemed severe by the Club.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

(the) "Club" meaning Victoria Park Soccer Club Inc.

"League" meaning any organisation administering playing activities, including Football West.

"Club Officials" meaning any members acting on behalf of the Club, including team captains, coaches, Club board members.

APPENDIX 1. CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

In all our actions, on and off the field, we, the members of Victoria Park Soccer Club, will demonstrate our Club’s values at all times including Respect, Fair Play and Accountability, and encourage others to abide by these values and this Code of Conduct.

I, the undersigned, confirm I agree to the Code of Conduct of Victoria Park Soccer Club

Signature:	
Name:	Date: