



CODE OF CONDUCT

COACHES

Purpose:

To inform coaches of the guidelines the BJFC expects them to adhere to in the application of their role as Coach.

Guidelines:

1. Coaches that are chosen to represent the Berwick Junior Football Club will abide by the AFL Code of Conduct, Rules and Codes of Conduct of the Berwick Junior Football Club Inc. and the SEJ.
2. Coaches must operate within the spirit of the game and understand and practice fair play and must teach and encourage their players to do the same.
3. Coaches must remember that players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
4. Coaches must recognise that all players are deserving of equal time, attention, and opportunities from the lowest skilled player to the highest skilled player.
5. Players should receive a minimum of the following playing time on match day in accordance with AFL guidelines.

U/8 to U/14	$\frac{3}{4}$ of a game
U/15 to U/19.6 Girls	$\frac{1}{2}$ a game
6. Berwick Junior Football Club encourages all coaches to play players for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a game, however from U/15 and above, it is at the Coach's discretion to field a team that has demonstrated to the Coach a strong desire to participate regularly at training and on match day. Nevertheless, they still must receive a minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ a game. Team Managers have access to a standard form to assist player management of players time if required.
7. A Coach must have due consideration to the varying maturity and ability levels of all players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in the competition.
8. A Coach is to avoid overplaying of talented players and aim to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability.
9. A Coach is to be reasonable in the demands they make on the time commitments of the players, having due consideration for their health, wellbeing, school and home life.
10. A Coach will not verbally or physically abuse, intimidate or use threatening behaviour or language towards any players in their care, or any opposition.
11. A Coach must refrain from any unnecessary physical contact with the player. Any physical contact with a young person will be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development
12. A Coach will show concern and caution towards ill and injured players and recognise the significance of the injury or illness. Coaches will follow the advice of the club First Aid Officer or a Physician, whichever is appropriate, in the circumstances concerning the return of an injured or ill player to training and competition. If the player has been under a physician a certificate should be provided to the coach allowing the player to train or play.
13. A Coach will stress and monitor safety always and ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
14. A Coach will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person and all other individuals within the context of the coach's involvement, in Australian Football and the Berwick Junior Football Club Inc., including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic background or special ability/disability.

15. A Coach will attempt to play all players in as many positions as possible. In under 9's and under 10's, all players must get a turn in each Zone (forward, centre, back) at least once during the season.
16. A Coach will not verbally or physically abuse, intimidate or use threatening behaviour or language towards Berwick Junior Football Club Inc. Committee persons or representatives, league representatives, coaches, game day officials, parents or spectators including all players, representatives, parents and spectators of other clubs.
17. A Coach will at all times actively foster and display control, respect, professionalism and appropriate sporting behaviour, towards all coaches, game day officials, club committee and administrators, parents, spectators and media regardless of whether they are from Berwick Junior Football Club Inc or from other clubs.
18. A Coach will obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date and informed regarding sound principles of coaching, skill development and the principles of growth and development of young people recognising that these are factors relating to the welfare of players.
19. A Coach will reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy
20. The Berwick Junior Football Club has a Voting Policy. Please refer to the Voting Policy for further details.
21. The Berwick Junior Football Club gives all Coaches its full support in the implementation of these guidelines.

Non Compliance:

If a breach of the BJFC Coaches Code of Conduct occurs, disciplinary action may be applied at the discretion of the committee to impose any sanction on any person contravening the BJFC rules and regulations on any terms or conditions seen fit or to otherwise deal with such matter in any manner they in their absolute discretion think fit. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, warnings or suspensions and is separate from any other penalty that may or may not be applied by the league or Police for the same incident. It will also be recorded and will impact potential future applications for coaching positions.

Implementation:

All coaches will be made aware of this policy upon being accepted as a coach for the new season.

Review:

This policy is to be reviewed by the existing committee every two years or as required to ensure that the policy is applicable to the BJFC Inc. The committee can then recommend changes that they see fit, and then ratify any changes to the policy at the next scheduled general committee meeting.

Code of Conduct – Coaches– Ratified 8 February 2023