



Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club (OGCJFC)

Code of Conduct

Version 1.0

Approved: February 2026

Review: February 2027

1. Purpose

Ocean Grove Cobras Junior Football Club (OGCJFC) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all players, families, volunteers and officials.

This Code outlines the standards of behaviour expected across all Club activities and reflects the Club's commitment to child safety, respect, inclusion, positive participation and community values.

This Code supports safe participation but does not replace applicable league rules, legal obligations or child safeguarding requirements.

2. Scope

This Code applies to all players, parents/carers, coaches, team managers, volunteers, committee members and spectators involved with the OGCJFC.

It applies to all OGCJFC activities including training, matches, meetings, club events and all online and digital interactions connected to the Club.

3. Our Club Values

OGCJFC is guided by the following core values, which guide decision making across all Club activities.

- Respect – We treat others with dignity, fairness and courtesy at all times
- Inclusion – We welcome and support people of all backgrounds, abilities and identities, ensuring everyone feels valued and included
- Teamwork & Sportsmanship – We work together, support one another and contribute positively both on and off the field. We play fairly and respectfully in victory and defeat.
- Enjoyment – We promote fun, participation and positive experiences for all players and families.
- Development – We encourage growth, learning, effort and confidence-building
- Safety & Wellbeing – We prioritise the physical and emotional safety of children and foster an environment where all participants feel safe and supported

These values are formally adopted by the Committee and apply across all Club operations, policies and activities.

All members are expected to model behaviour consistent with these values

4. Behavioural Expectations

All members must act in accordance with the Club's values and this Code of Conduct at all times.

Members must:

- Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Treat others with respect, dignity and fairness
- Support a safe and inclusive environment free from bullying, harassment, discrimination or intimidation
- Respect cultural background, gender identity, religion, ability and individual differences
- Follow AFL Victoria and AFL Barwon rules and guidelines

OGCJFC has zero tolerance for behaviour that threatens, humiliates, intimidates, excludes or undermines the safety and wellbeing of any participant, particularly children and young people.

All members share responsibility for maintaining a safe, inclusive and family focused club environment.

Players

Players must:

- Respect teammates, coaches, umpires and opponents
- Play fairly and demonstrate good sportsmanship
- Follow coach instructions and team rules
- Represent OGCJFC with pride both on and off the field
- Support and include teammates

Bullying, verbal abuse, physical aggression or discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Parents and Spectators

Parents/carers and spectators must:

- Encourage participation, effort, development and enjoyment over winning.
- Respect umpires, coaches, volunteers, players and officials at all times.
- Refrain from sideline coaching, disputing umpire decisions or confronting officials, players or volunteers
- Raise concerns through appropriate club channels rather than during or immediately after games

The Club supports a positive and child safe sideline environment. Aggressive, abusive or confrontational behaviour will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the venue and further action.

Coaches and Officials

Coaches and officials are expected to:

- Provide a safe, inclusive, supportive and child focused environment
- Model behaviour consistent with the Club's values at all times
- Promote participation, development and enjoyment.
- Treat all players fairly and respectfully.
- Comply with all Club policies and AFL Barwon requirements
- Raise child safety concerns promptly in accordance with the Child Safety & Wellbeing Framework
- Place the wellbeing and development of players ahead of winning or performance outcomes.

5. Social Media and Communication

All members must communicate respectfully online and must not post harmful, abusive, defamatory or inappropriate content about players, families, volunteers, officials or the Club.

Images or identifying information of children must not be shared without appropriate consent.

Concerns or complaints must be raised through Club channels and not discussed publicly on social media.

6. Managing Concerns

Concerns should be raised respectfully and managed in accordance with the Club's Complaints Policy.

All matters will be handled in accordance with principles of procedural fairness and the Club's Complaints Policy. Any concern relating to child safety or wellbeing will be managed in accordance with the Club's Child Safety & Wellbeing Framework.

7. Breaches of the Code

Where behaviour does not meet the standards of this Code, the Club will respond in a fair, respectful and proportionate manner, with a focus on maintaining a safe, inclusive and positive environment for all participants.

Responses may include:

- Informal discussion and reminder of expectations
- Formal warning
- Meeting with parents/guardians or relevant members
- Requirement to leave a venue or event
- Temporary restriction from attending training, matches or club activities
- Referral to AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria or relevant governing body where required

The Club will prioritise the ongoing participation and wellbeing of players wherever possible. Children will not be disadvantaged due to the behaviour of adults.

Serious or repeated misconduct may result in immediate action in line with Club and league requirements.

This Code of Conduct is endorsed by the Committee and applies to all members, participants and visitors to the Club.

Related documents

Child Safety and Wellbeing Framework

Complaints Handling Policy

Medical and Injury Management Policy

Team Allocation Policy

Coach Selection Policy