

Fingal Ravens GFC - Club Code of Conduct

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Fingal Ravens G.F.C.

Club Code of Conduct.

Adult Mentors

1. Always remember that you are representing Fingal Ravens, not just yourself or your own team.
2. Respect and be fair to all players on your panel. Respect and fair play must also be encouraged and emphasised within training sessions and competitions.
3. Condemn the use of violence in all forms at every opportunity. Managers are responsible for their players' actions on the field. Unsportsmanlike tactics (i.e., the intent to injure opposing players), taunting, deliberate faking of injuries and "professional fouls" are unethical and forbidden.
4. Acquaint yourself fully with the rules of Gaelic games, adhere to the letter and spirit of these rules and do not circumvent them to gain advantage. You are responsible for ensuring that players understand the intent and application of the rules, and should impress on players that they must abide by them at all times.
5. The importance of winning must never supersede the players' safety and welfare. Winning is only one aspect and is the result of good preparation and discipline.
6. Ensure that each player understands what is expected of him/her and the team should also fully understand what is expected of it.
7. Destructive criticism does not result in improved performance. Players respond better to positive comments. Set a good example and give with praise if it is deserved.
8. Maintain good relations, despite the heat of battle, with opposing players and mentors. Avoid verbal dissent during a game with an opposing manager.
9. Do not, verbally or otherwise, abuse any player or person involved with the opposing team on the grounds of race or colour. Such behaviour is unethical and against the law. If players on your panel behave in this way, take stern action, including dropping these players from the panel.
10. Respect the match officials and don't let bad decisions deflect you from running the team.
11. Avoid using abusive or offensive language towards players in your charge, towards match officials or indeed in all situations. Such language reduces your credibility.
12. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, and for the judgement of referees and opposing coaches.

13. Keep informed about sound principles of coaching and team development techniques.
14. If criticism is to be levelled against match officials, complaints must be made in writing by the Secretary of the Club to the appropriate authorities responsible for match officiating assignments.
15. Mentors and players must not address the referee before, during or after the game in a demeaning or intimidating way. Mentors must not incite players or spectators against referees and must avoid any conduct which is construed as physically or verbally abusive. In particular, referees never change match results after receiving "input" from a disgruntled and angry mentor! If you have a well-thought out and positive reason to speak to a referee after a game, ensure your approach is equally well thought-out and positive.
16. It is your responsibility to ensure all players are aware of match times, venues and travel arrangements.

Juvenile Mentors

1. Always remember that you are representing Fingal Ravens, not just yourself or your own team.
2. Respect and be fair to all players under your care. Respect and fair play must also be encouraged and emphasised within training sessions and competitions. Treat less talented players with as much respect as stars.
3. Condemn the use of violence in all forms at every opportunity. Managers are responsible for their players' actions on the field. Unsportsmanlike tactics (i.e., the intent to injure opposing players), taunting, deliberate faking of injuries and "professional fouls" are unethical and forbidden.
4. Acquaint yourself fully with the rules of Gaelic games, adhere to the letter and spirit of these rules and do not circumvent them to gain advantage. You are responsible for ensuring that players understand the intent and application of the rules, and should impress on players that they must abide by them at all times.
5. The importance of winning must never supersede the players' safety and welfare. Ensure that your players' experience is one of fun and enjoyment. Winning is only one aspect and is the result of good preparation and discipline.

6. Ensure that each player understands what is expected of him/her. The team should also fully understand what is expected of it. Be reasonable in your demands on young players' time, energy, enthusiasm and their performance on the playing field.
7. Destructive criticism does not result in improved performance. Players respond better to positive comments. Set a good example and be generous with your praise when it is deserved.
8. Maintain good relations, despite the heat of battle, with opposing players and mentors. Avoid verbal dissent during a game with an opposing manager.
9. Do not, verbally or otherwise, abuse any player or person involved with the opposing team on the grounds of race or colour. Such behaviour is unethical and against the law. If players on your panel behave in this way, take stern action, including dropping these players from the panel.
10. Respect the match officials and don't let bad decisions deflect you from running the team.
11. Avoid using abusive or offensive language towards players in your charge, towards match officials or indeed in all situations. Such language reduces your credibility.
12. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, and for the judgement of referees and opposing coaches.
13. Keep informed about sound principles of coaching and team development techniques.
14. The protection of children from any form of abuse must be a priority for all who are involved in children's sports. Therefore, mentors should ensure that another mentor, or a parent or another adult, is present at all times when s/he are with players in dressing rooms, training sessions and matches.
15. If criticism is to be levelled against match officials, complaints must be made in writing by the Secretary of the Club to the appropriate authorities responsible for match officiating assignments.
16. Mentors and players must not address the referee before, during or after the game in a demeaning or intimidating way. Mentors must not incite players, parents or spectators against referees and must avoid any conduct which is construed as physically or verbally abusive. In particular, referees never change match results after receiving "input" from a disgruntled and angry mentor! If you have a well-thought out and positive reason to speak to a referee after a game, ensure your approach is equally well thought-out and positive.
17. It is your responsibility to ensure all players are aware of match times and venues. Under no circumstances should a player be left alone at a pick up or drop off point. You should ensure you have a contact number of a parent or guardian for all players under your responsibility.

Players

1. Always remember that you are representing Fingal Ravens, not just yourself or your own team.
2. Trust and show respect for your team mentors. Acknowledge that they are human, that they are volunteers, not professionals, and will make mistakes.
3. Always let your mentors know well in advance, if you cannot attend a training session and, especially, if you will not be available for a match.
4. Always wear the correct, clean Fingal Ravens kit and any other sportswear as specified by your mentors.
5. Try to make your teammates' contribution as productive as possible, in training and in matches, by encouraging rather than criticising.
6. Before games, remain with your teammates and obey your mentors' instructions in relation to behaviour in the dressing room or on the pitch.
7. Work equally hard for your team as for yourself. Don't be a show-off or a glory-hunter.
8. Show respect for the referee and officials and be aware that they are likely to respond unfavourably when criticised. Do not question their decisions or give backchat. Give your name if asked and accept the referee's approach responsibly, without dissent. Do not touch any match official, even if your purpose is well intentioned.
9. Always remember that you owe a duty of care to your opponents. Play hard but fairly and within the rules, do not intend to hurt your opponent. Do not "bully" or take advantage of any player.
10. Control your temper and most of all, resist the temptation to retaliate when you feel you have been wronged. Do not react to intimidating tactics from opponents.
11. Do not leave your position on the field to get involved in any way in an incident elsewhere on or off the field.
12. Concentrate on playing the game and on affecting the outcome of the game with your best efforts.
13. Don't use foul or offensive language at matches. Be aware that you act as role models for younger members.
14. Do not, verbally or otherwise, abuse any player or person involved with the opposing team on the grounds of race or colour. Such behaviour is unethical and against the law.

15. Always shake hands with the players of the opposing team when games have finished and thank the referee for the match. Go quietly with your teammates to your team's dressing room.
16. Always respect the facilities made available to you, both at Fingal Ravens and away from home.
17. Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve skills and feel good.
18. Win with humility - lose with dignity.

Members and Spectators

1. Always remember that you are a member of Fingal Ravens and are representing the club at all matches and events you attend.
2. Don't use foul or offensive language at matches. Be aware that children are present.
3. Our amateur players and mentors put in huge efforts on a totally voluntary basis. Support players and mentors rather than slate them.
4. Referees are human and will make mistakes. Criticising them publicly achieves nothing positive, and may well have the opposite effect - referees may well deny our team the benefit of any marginal decisions as a result.
5. Respect the opposition and don't vilify opposing players. Never get involved in an altercation with an opposing player, mentor or spectator.
6. Do not, verbally or otherwise, abuse any player or person involved with the opposing team on the grounds of race or colour. Do not encourage others to carry out such abuse. Such behaviour is unethical and against the law.

7. If the pitch is surrounded by a rope or barrier, spectators should stay behind this at all times during the match.

8. Be careful of intervening to break up any altercation at a game - your intentions can be misinterpreted. When in any doubt, stay out.

9. Foster good post-match relations with the opposition.

10. Good-natured banter, among our own supporters and exchanged with the opposing team's supporters, is a time-honoured and excellent feature of spectating at Gaelic games, adding considerably to enjoyment, but know where to draw the line.

Club code of conduct was adopted by the club at our AGM on 22nd November 2007.

It is a condition of every member (or their parents/guardians), that each year when filling out their membership form, they sign a section that they agree to abide by the club code of conduct.

Any breaches or alleged breaches of the clubs code of conduct will be investigated fully by the Fingal Ravens Executive Committee.