



Aspley Guise Football Club

Codes of Conduct, discipline and complaints

Football, sometimes deservedly, suffers from a reputation for bad behaviour. At Aspley Guise Football Club we're passionate about making sure that the game is played, watched, coached and run only in the best interests of the children and young people and that we put everything we possibly can in place to ensure their enjoyment of the experience.

For that to be the case we think it's important that expectations of everyone involved with the club are made clear.

By being involved with the club, as a volunteer, player, parent or guardian you are agreeing to abide by the behaviours outlined in this document and accept that not doing so may result in the outcomes listed.

If you have any questions or queries about the contents of this document please contact either chair@aspleyguisefc.co.uk, secretaries@aspleyguisefc.co.uk or welfare@aspleyguisefc.co.uk.

Players registered to play for Aspley Guise FC agree to...

- Always play to the best of my ability and for the benefit of my team
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, dive, complain or waste time
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee and not question their decisions
- Be gracious in victory and defeat – I will shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me
- Understand that a coach has to do what is best for the team and not just one individual player
- Respect the facilities and equipment provided for me and my team by the club.
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.
- Address any concerns I may have to the appropriate people within the club and not engage in criticising individuals or organisations publicly or on social media.

I understand that if I do not follow the code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my Coach, club, county FA or The FA:

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave the club.

And I understand that:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club.

Parents and spectators agree to:

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Respect the Referee's decisions even when you don't agree with them
- Appreciate good play from whatever team it comes from
- Remain behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Support positively and offer players encouragement not criticism
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Pay any fines that are attributable to a player, parent or guardian in full and on time.
- Address any concerns I may have to the appropriate people within the club and not engage in criticising individuals or organisations publicly or on social media.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

And in addition:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.

Coaches and Committee Members agree to...

On and off the field I will:

- Use my position to set a positive example for the young people I am responsible for
- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators.
- Always seek to defuse and de-escalate situations rather than enflaming them.
- Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
- Respect the match official's decision
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Be gracious in victory and defeat.
- Maintain the required qualifications required by my position.
- Be fair to all of the children in my care. That does not mean that I will give them all equal game time but I will ensure that their treatment is fair.
- Be respectful of the equipment and facilities provided for me and always ensure that I open and close facilities as instructed.
- Pay any fines that are attributable to me in full and on time.
- Address any concerns I may have to the appropriate people within the club and not engage in criticising individuals or organisations publicly or on social media.

When working with players I will:

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests.
- I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
- Required to leave the club.

Making a Complaint

If you are a child and feel unsafe or uncomfortable with the way you are being treated or are any other person who is concerned about the wellbeing of a child please talk to someone within the club that you trust without delay or contact the Welfare Officer by email at welfare@aspleyguisefc.co.uk.

If you are dissatisfied with the way that your child is being treated please contact your team coach in the first instance.

To escalate a complaint please contact any committee member at the club.

The Disciplinary Committee and how complaints are handled

Upon receipt of any complaint the club disciplinary committee consisting of at least four of the Chairperson, Secretary, Welfare Officer, Treasurer and Coach Liaison Officer shall consider the complaint. All information relating to the complaint shall be kept confidential.

The Disciplinary Committee may:

- Contact any person related to the complaint to ask for their input.
- Contact the league or FA to discuss the complaint.
- Ask for evidence relating to the complaint
- Ask any person involved in the complaint to meet to discuss and answer the complaint.

Actions taken in response to the complaint may include:

- No action taken (if the complaint is dismissed or there is a lack of evidence)
- A request for payment of any damages in relation to equipment or facilities.
- A person receiving a suspension from playing, attending, coaching or being involved in the club
- A person and any dependents being excluded from the club.
- In extreme circumstances, actions may include contacting the Police or Welfare Services.
- Aspley Guise FC do not issue financial fines (apart from requests to pay for damages).