



NORTHEND UNITED YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB Established 2003

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES/VOLUNTEERS NEUFC – CC02

All coaches and volunteers are encouraged to demonstrate exemplary behaviour in order to protect children/young people in their care and themselves from false allegations. The following are common sense examples of how to create a positive culture and climate within your club/centre.

As a coach/volunteer within this club/centre I, the undersigned, agree to the following charter:

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat everyone equally within the club/centre
- I will develop an appropriate working relationship with children/young people based on mutual trust and respect. I will not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward
- I will hold up to date and nationally recognized coaching qualifications and hold appropriate insurance cover
- I will always promote the positive aspects of football (e.g. fair play) and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances
- I will be an excellent role model. This includes not smoking, drinking alcohol, using foul/racial/sectarian language or taking drugs in the company of children/young people.
- I will always work in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging an open environment, e.g. no secrets)
- I will always put the welfare of each child/young person before winning or achieving goals
- I will maintain a safe and appropriate distance with players (e.g. it is not appropriate to have an intimate relationship with a child/young person)
- I will make football, enjoyable and promoting fair play

- I will ensure that if any form of manual/physical support is required, it is provided openly and according to agreed guidelines. If physical support is needed, I will talk aloud to the child/young person explaining what I am doing and why as it is difficult to maintain hand positions when a child/young person is constantly moving. I agree that children/young people should always be consulted before they are touched and their agreement gained. Parental/guardian views about manual support will always be carefully considered.
- I will involve parents/guardians wherever possible (e.g. for the responsibility of their children in the changing rooms) provided they have been successfully vetted, are of the appropriate gender and work in pairs
- I will give enthusiastic and constructive feedback, encouraging achievements rather than using negative criticism
- I will recognise the developmental needs and capacity of children/young people, including those with a disability – avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will
- I will keep a written record or inform the Head Coach/Co-ordinator of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given
- I will challenge bullying in any form ie physical or emotional. Bullying is not acceptable behaviour towards anyone, whether coach/volunteer, parent/guardian or child/young player. Anyone found to be bullying others will be dealt with seriously, both in relation to the behaviour exhibited and the reasons for the behaviour
- I will never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances
- Avoid spending excessive amounts of time alone with children/young people away from others

Practices never to be sanctioned by coaches/volunteers

The following will never be sanctioned. I will never:

- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay
- Share a room/tent/changing room/bath or shower with a child/young person
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching
- Allow children/young people to use foul, abusive, sectarian or racial language unchallenged

- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child/young person, even in fun
- Reduce a child/young person to tears as a form of control
- Allow allegations made by a child/young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Undertake personal care for children/young people
- Invite or allow children/young people to stay with me at my home.

I understand any misdemeanours or breach of this code will be dealt with immediately and reported verbally and in writing to the Child Welfare Officer/Deputy Child Welfare Officer. Persistent breach of the code will result in dismissal from the club/centre.

Dismissals can be appealed by the coach/volunteer with final decisions taken by the club/centre committee.

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____