

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION: The management committee and officials of the Highfield Grange Football Club realise that our players are one of our greatest assets (along with our team managers & officials) plus being our number one ambassadors for the club in the public domain where ever they play. Players are the most important people in all sports at whatever level and ability. Playing for the team and the team winning is the most fundamental part of the game at competitive or non-competitive level. But it is not a winning mentality at any cost, mentally the club wants our players to adopt -fair play and respect for all others in the game and is paramount plus fundamentally important. Hence - why the club's motto is “ playing before winning” that was adopted in 2007, when the club became a Charter Standard approved organisation by the FA.

Every player in every Highfield Grange Team as obligations as follows :-

OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THE GAME : A Highfield player should :-

- Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina.
- Give the maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his / her team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
- Set a positive example for others to follow, particularly younger players and supporters.
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship and time wasting.
- Always have high regards for the best interests of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
- Not use inappropriate language.

OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THEMSELVES : A Highfield player should :-

- Wear the correct kit and only for matches – not any other sporting activity and make sure it is only in good condition plus correct (fully corporate team colours)
- Make every effort to have clean boots in a good condition and check the studs for wear & tear.
- Wear shin pads during both training , friendly games and league and cup matches. (Charter Standard Good Practice for health and safety)
- Have their shirts tucked-in during playing a match.
- No eating or chewing during matches and training.
- No jewellery to be worn during matches and training.
- No swearing or fighting on or off the field.
- To not derogate, embarrass and ridicule opposition player (s) because of their ability or the score line.

OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THEIR TEAM : A Highfield player should :-

- Make every effort to be consistent with fair play and the laws of the game to help his/her team win.
- Resist any influence which might or might not be seen ,to bring into question his/her commitment to the team competing or winning.

REF: HG – A04

- Will turn up for training and matches on time, especially when playing away from home, involving travelling a distance.

RESPECT FOR THE LAWS OF THE GAME & COMPETITION RULES

A Highfield player should :-

- Learn, know and abide by the laws, rules and spirit of the game and the competition rules
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat equally.

RESPECT TOWARDS OPPONENTS : A Highfield player should :-

- Treat opponents with due respect at all time, irrespective of the result of the game
- Shake hands with opponents before and after the game.
- Safeguard opponents health and safety at all times to ensure their well being.
- Show no abuse (verbally or through media) towards opponents before, during and after games. N.B See also the club Media Policy A27 in respect of comments.

RESPECT TOWARDS MATCH OFFICIALS : A Highfield player should :-

- Accept the decisions of the match official without protest.
- Avoid words or actions which may mislead an official.
- Show due respect towards the match official (s)
- Show no abuse ,racial /sexual remarks towards any official

**REMEMBER WITHOUT THE OFFICIALS THERE IS NO GAME !
FA RESPECT POLICY**

RESPECT TOWARDS TEAM / CLUB OFFICIALS : A Highfield player should :-

- Inform them if you have an injury - it will not go better by playing on with it!
- Abide by the instructions of the coach or official, providing they do not contradict the spirit of this code or the players and opposition health and safety.
- Show due respect towards team official (s) of the opposition

**REMEMBER THAT THE GAME LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM THE SIDELINES
THAN WHEN YOUR PLAYING IN IT!**

RESPECT TOWARDS SUPPORTERS : A Highfield player should :-

- Show due respect towards the interests of the supporters / spectators.
- Show no abuse towards the supporters/ spectators no matter what the provocation is being dealt out.

ALL PLAYERS MUST ADHERE TO THE CLUB PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY AT ALL TIMES. ANY PLAYER FOUND GUILTY OF BAD SPORTSMANSHIP MAY BE DISCIPLINED (SEE CLUB POLICY) AND ULITIMATELY HAVE THEIR HIGHFIELD MEMBERSHIP REVOKED.

ALL CLUB PLAYERS ARE TO READ THIS CODE OF CONDUCT EVERY SEASON TO REINFORCE THE CLUB'S POLICY AND SIGN THE ASSOCIATED A12 DECLARATION FORM ALONG WITH THEIR PARENTS SIGNING THEIR SECTION OF THE DECLARATION