



Leighton United Football Club

SPECTATOR AND PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code includes requirements set out in the Football Association (FA) Code of Respect for Spectators and Parents/Carers

Spectators and parents/carers are required to:

- Remember that children play for FUN. It's what we are all here for!
- Celebrate effort and good play from both sides.
- Always respect the referee and coaches and encourage players to do the same. Do not dispute decisions or show dissent in any way.
- Stay at least ONE METRE back from the touchlines behind the Respect pitch barrier or within designated spectator areas (where provided) during matches and do not encroach on the field of play at any time during matches.
- Support positively. Offer players encouragement, not criticism. If they make mistakes encourage them to try again next time.
- Not give instructions to players – i.e. leave coaching and tactics to team coaches.
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour, including allegations of cheating.
- Not resort to verbal or physical threats (including shouting or screaming) or intimidation against anyone under any circumstances, including match officials, opposing team officials, players, and other spectators.
- Not indulge in acrimonious electronic communications or social networking with members and supporters of opposition teams, match officials or Leighton United club officials.
- Not communicate or get involved with opposing team personnel (including spectators), either at the match or via social media.
- Never behave in a manner that will bring the Club's name into disrepute.
- Remember the Club operates a zero-tolerance policy regarding any form of misconduct.

Misconduct by opposition players, officials or spectators should be reported at once to the Leighton United team coach or to a club official. The club will report to the FA as appropriate. Do not communicate with the FA direct – leave it to the Club.

- Ensure that playing fees are paid on time as required by the Club and accept that non-payment means no football.
- Ensure that coaches/team managers are informed as soon as possible if a player is unable to attend a club footballing event (non-attendance may affect team selection).



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- Be responsible for taking players to club footballing events and collecting them from events at the times communicated by coaches/team managers. Lift sharing should be a private arrangement between parents/carers.
- Understand that non-sponsored playing kit remains the property of the Club and must be returned to the Club at the end of the football season unless retention for the following season is agreed.
Payment of playing fees infers no ownership of kit. Lost or damaged items must be paid for.
- Ensure that the Club is paid for any Football Association disciplinary fines incurred by a player or by the club as a consequence of spectator misconduct.
Outstanding debts risks teams and the club being suspended.

Non-compliance with this Code may result in:

- Issue of a verbal warning from a match or club official.
- Asked to leave the scene of a match by a match or club official.
- Being required to meet with club officials, league officials or the County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- Obligated to undertake an appropriate FA education course – e.g. the online Safeguarding for All course.
- Requested by the Club not to attend any future matches (remembering that the Club's home ground is private property thereby enabling the Club to restrict attendance).
- Be suspended by the Club.
- Required to leave the Club along with any dependent players and/or issued with a fine.