

Affiliate  
With



**Special Olympics**  
Australia

## DOVETON SPECIAL SOCCER SCHOOL INC.

A 0052 890 Y

Home ground "WARATAH" RESERVE,  
Doveton Ave  
DOVETON

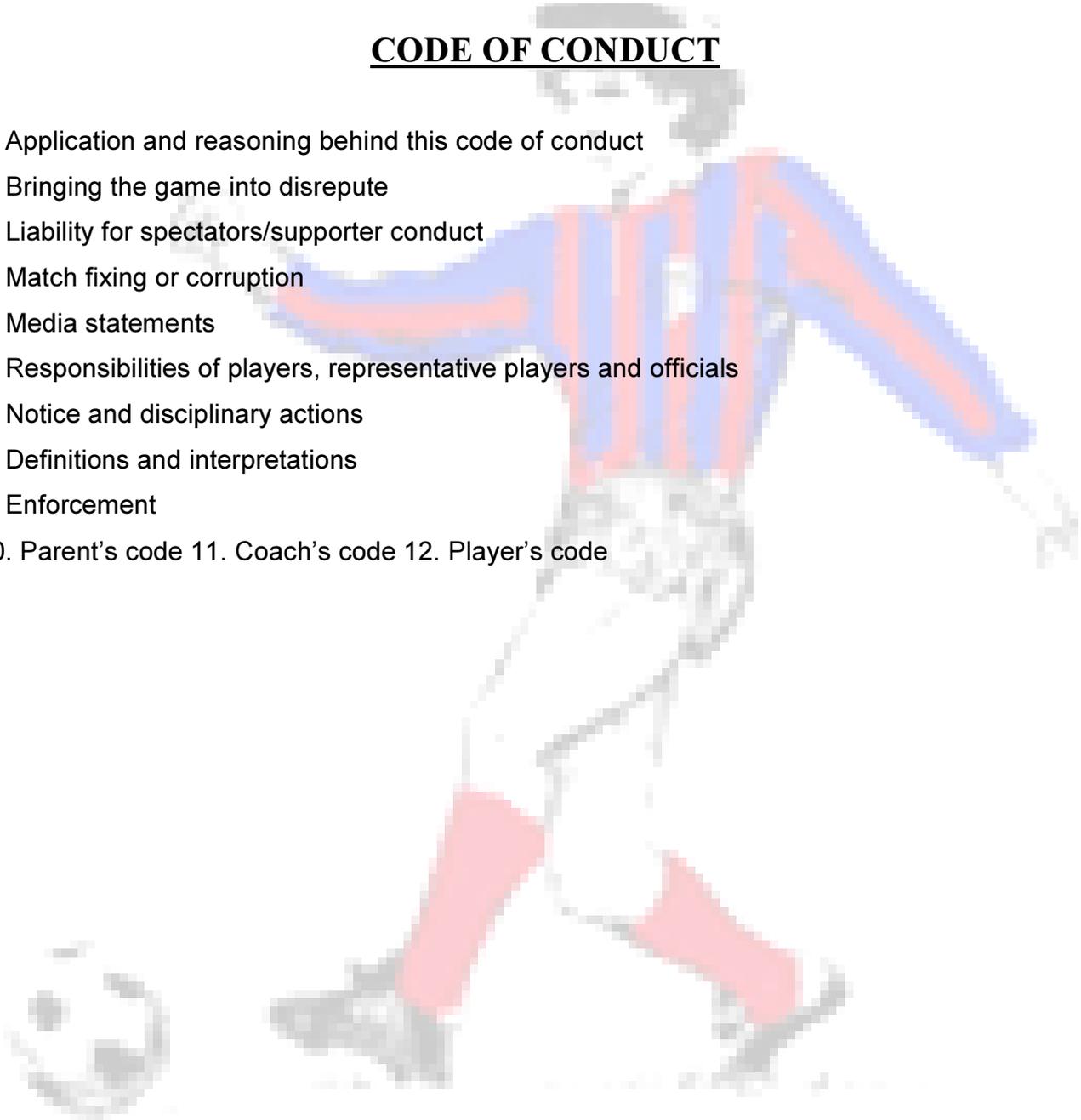
*SOCCER FOR PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY*



ABN 47 228 434 805

### CODE OF CONDUCT

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## **1. APPLICATION AND REASONING BEHIND THIS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 1.1 This code of conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of the DOVETON SPECIAL SOCCER SCHOOL (DSSS), in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its players, supporters and coaches.
- 1.2 THIS CODE:
- (a) Forms part of the DSSS, and applies to the conduct and behaviour of all DSSS members, players, administrators, officials and agents,
  - (b) Applies to ALL forms of organised soccer under the DSSS jurisdiction, including modified teams either indoor or outdoor.
  - (c) Continues to apply to a Member even after that Member's association, registration or engagement has ended, if that Member breached this code while a current member, and
  - (d) Does not limit or restrict the application of DSSS statutes and, in particular, the NATIONAL Disciplinary Regulations, Members Protection Police or Anti-Doping Policy.
- 1.3 This Code of Conduct may be supplemented by additional codes of behaviour or ethics, provided that they are not inconsistent with the terms of this Code.

## 2. BRINGING THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE

- 2.1 A member must not bring DSSS or the game of Soccer into Disrepute.
- 2.2 Without limiting the generality of clause 2.1, a Member will be taken as having brought football into disrepute if any of the following occurs:
- (a) Discriminatory behaviour, including public ridicule of, discrimination against, or vilification of, a person on account of an attribute;
  - (b) Harassment, including sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual conduct which makes a person feel offended, humiliated and/or intimidated where that reaction is reasonable in the circumstances,
  - (c) Offensive behaviour, including offensive, obscene, confrontational or insulting gestures, language or chanting;
  - (d) Nuisance or incitement of hatred or violence;
  - (e) Spectator violence;
  - (f) Intimidation of officials, (coaches, Members) which may take the form of (but is not restricted to) derogatory or abusive words or gestures toward an official or the use of violence or threats either verbal or physical to pressure an official to take or omit to take certain action regardless of where such action is taken;
  - (g) Forgery and falsification, including creation of a false document, forgery of a document or signature, the making of a false claim or providing inaccurate or false information on a prescribed form;
  - (h) Corruption, including offering a benefit or an advantage to a player or an official in an attempt to provoke him/her to violate DSSS laws
  - (i) Abuse of position to obtain personal benefit
  - (j) Commission or charge of a criminal offence; or
  - (k) Any other conduct, behaviour or statement that materially injures the reputation and goodwill of the DSSS or Soccer generally

- 2.3 A club is deemed to have committed an offence under this section where its crowd or its spectators have engaged in any of the conduct outlined in clause 2.2
- 2.4 Players and Officials(coaches) are entitled to have their privacy respected and this code is not to intended to apply to private activities engaged in by a player or an official that are not in the public domain.

### 3. LIABILITY FOR SUPPORTERS/SPECTATOR CONDUCT

- 3.1 A club is responsible, and liable, for the conduct and behaviour of its supporters, whether at home or away.
- 3.2 Each patron, that being supporter, fan, benefactor or sponsor at a match must comply with the spectator code of behaviour. It is the host club's responsibility to ensure this spectator code of behaviour is implemented and enforced against all spectators.
- 3.3 A guest club is liable for improper conduct among its own group of supporters. Supporters occupying the guest club are regarded as the guest club's supporters, unless proven different.

### 4. MATCH-FIXING AND CORRUPTION

- 4.1 A member must not engage, directly or indirectly, in:
  - (a) Any bet, wager, gamble or any other form of financial speculation where the relevant person stands to win or gain from the win, draw or loss of any club.
  - (b) Fixing or throwing of a match, or
  - (c) Any conduct or behaviour intended to unfairly affect the results of a game, including accepting or agreeing to accept any benefit connected with or relating to the ability of a member to exercise control over or influence the outcome of a game so as to bring about a result other than that which would be achieved in a fair contest between the competing teams.
- 4.2 a player, an official and a representative must not:
  - (a) accept bribes through the offer, promise or acceptance of any benefit in return for violating his/her duties; or
  - (b) Provide for a benefit any information concerning a club, its team's actual or likely composition, the form or injuries of players or possible tactics (other than in connection with a Media interview).
- 4.3 A person who is under prosecution for action unworthy of a soccer management position (especially doping, alcohol, corruption, forgery etc.) or who has been prosecuted for such action in the last 5 years cannot be involved in the DSSS management, including as an official or agent.
- 4.4 A member must immediately inform DSSS management/committee any offer or a bribe or any attempt by a person in breach of this clause 4.

## 5. MEDIA STATEMENTS

- 5.1 A member must not make any statement in public, including any contribution to television, radio or print media, that.....
- (a) Is disapproving or critical of an official, opposition team or any player or coach
  - (b) Is disapproving or critical of DSSS, or any DSSS ruling or DSSS policy decision, without reasonable basis or justification; or
  - (c) Comment on any matter the subject of a current hearing before the Committee.
- 5.2 Where a statement made by an official or player which, in the entire opinion of the Soccer committee, constitutes a breach of clause 5.1, the club is subject to permission under this code, independent of any permission a soccer committee member has chosen to impose against the official or player who made the statement.
- 5.3 A member must not make or issue any public or media statement or release that incorporates a reference to DSSS or a DSSS property, such as the team or a team, without DSSS prior written consent.

## 6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PLAYERS, REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

- 6.1 Professional players, representative players and officials are the public face of the soccer in DSSS and so their behaviour is subject to greater scrutiny. Accordingly, a player, representative and an official must;
- (a) at all times behave in a manner that promotes and upholds the highest standards of dignity and professionalism at DSSS;
  - (b) comply with any team protocol and procedures, including in relation to alcohol, curfews and inappropriate relationships and behaviour, and
  - (c) Not act in a manner contrary to the best interests of the team and DSSs.
- 6.2 A club may discipline its Professional Players, Representative Players or Officials in relation to behaviour that relates only to that Player's employment or engagement by that Club, including:
- (a) Unexplained absence from a match or official training session or team meeting,
  - (b) Failure to wear designated clothing to a team promotion or activity;
  - (c) Conflicting sponsor brand visible during a team promotion or activity; and
  - (d) Behaviour that brings the Club into Disrepute, including inappropriate behaviour in public (such as a nightclub fight, or public event).
- 6.3 A club may impose disciplinary approvals on a Professional Player in accordance with Part 5 of the DSSS rulings subject to the following maximum rules.
- (a) Suspension of up to a maximum of 2 weeks; or
  - (b) Termination of a player (provided that the Club has already enforced rulings against the Player on at least 3 separate occasions)

6.4 A club may impose disciplinary rulings on a Representative Player and an Official in accordance with Part 5 of the DSSS rulings subject to the following maximum rules:

- (a) Suspension of up to a maximum of 2 weeks; or
- (b) Expulsion from the team (provided that the club has already enforced rulings against the player on at least 3 separate occasions).

## 7. NOTICE & DISCIPLINARY RULINGS

7.1 A soccer administrator may enforce the terms of this code and raise the rulings, only if it has given the party alleged to have infringed this Code:

- (a) Reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
- (b) Notice of possible sanctions; and
- (c) The opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of the infringement and sanction.

7.2 The scope and implementation of disciplinary rulings is as specified in Part 5 of the DSSS Rules.

7.3 The imposition of a sanction is immediate or as otherwise notified by the party imposing the ruling.

7.4 If a member disputes the ruling or alleged action taken under this Code that party may appeal in within 7 days of the notice of the ruling.

## 8. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

8.1 Any terms used but not defined in the Code of Conduct have the meaning given to them in the DSSS rulings.

8.2 In this Code:

**Attribute** means race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin, gender, transgender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, pregnancy or intellectual or physical impairment or any other attribute specified under the commonwealth or state legislation.

**Benefit** means money, gift, advantage consideration or any other benefit or reward, whether in cash or other.

**Club** means any club registered with the FFA in accordance with the National Registration regulations from time to time. A reference to Club includes a club admitted by

(a) A competition administrator to field a team in a competition.

(b) a member federation to field a representative team in a competition; or

(c) FFA to field a team in a National League or National Championship.

**Disrepute** means any conduct statement or appearance in public that is damaging to reputation.

**DSSS Statutes** means DSSS's statutes as spread by DSSS from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules and regulations and policies and procedures.

**Football Administrator** means DSSS, a member, a competition administrator or a club as the case requires.

8.3 If there is any inconsistency between a term of this Code and a term of any Member federation regulation or any competition rule, the term of this code will govern to the extent of that inconsistency and the inconsistent term is void and of no effect.

8.4 This Code will be interpreted, varied and reviewed in accordance with Part 9 of the DSSS Rulings.

## 9. ENFORCEMENT

This Code of Conduct comes into Force on the 1 October 2012 and any amendments made to the Code of Conduct come into effect immediately upon announcement of such amendments by DSSS.

