



## **SOUTH METRO JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE (SMJFL)**

### **Safeguarding Children & Young People and Wellbeing**

### **Code of Conduct**

This Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct (Code of Conduct) sets out a summary of the behaviours required of SMJFL People towards and in the presence of Children and Young People. **The *SMJFL Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy (Policy)*** sets out such requirements in further detail and should be referred to in the first instance if any SMJFL Person has any queries about this Code of Conduct.

This Code of Conduct applies to all SMJFL People. SMJFL People are required to abide by the behaviour standards set out in this Code of Conduct and report any behaviours that do not comply with it in accordance with the ***SMJFL Safeguarding Children and Young People Complaints and Reporting Procedure (Complaints and Reporting Procedure)***.

Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct will be considered a breach of the Policy and may result in investigation, disciplinary action including restriction or suspension of duties or termination of employment.

The Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. It also helps staff, board members, volunteers, and contractors by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations.

This Code of Conduct applies to all people (but not limited to) involved in SMJFL's activities and entities, including coaches, officials, volunteers, and parents.

#### **All SMJFL staff, board members, volunteers and contractors are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:**

- Treat all Children and Young People with respect.
- Ensure that all Children and Young People are appropriately supervised while participating in an SMJFL program while respecting the privacy of Children and Young People
- Wherever possible ensure that another adult is present when working near or with Children and Young Person
- Use disciplinary strategies that are fair, respectful, and appropriate to the developmental stage of the Children or Young People involved.
- Limit all interactions with Children and Young People to the confines of official duties.
- Wherever possible ensure that all email, text messages and other forms of communication sent to a Child or Young Person are copied to their parent/guardian and/or there are two adults in the communication, if using platforms such as Team App, or messenger
- Ensure that approval has been obtained from a Child or Young Person's parent/guardian prior to any photograph or film being taken of a Child or Young Person
- Ensure that any photograph or film taken of a Child or Young Person is taken in circumstances that are directly relevant to the Child's or Young Person's participation in an SMJFL / Club program and the Child or Young Person is appropriately dressed and posed.
- Use best endeavours to complete a risk assessment for any SMJFL / Club program that involves Children or Young People prior to conducting that SMJFL program.
- Immediately disclose any charges or convictions affecting their suitability to engage with Children and Young People to the SMJFL People Department; and
- Immediately report any concern for the safety or wellbeing of a Child or Young Person, or a suspected breach of the Policy or this Code of Conduct, in accordance with the Complaints and Reporting Procedure.

#### **SMJFL People MUST NOT:**

- Engage in any other form of behaviour that may be Child Abuse, including Grooming a Child or Young Person

- Initiate unnecessary physical contact with a Child or Young Person or do things of a personal nature for them that they can do themselves.
- Take disciplinary action involving physical punishment or any other form of treatment that could be considered as degrading, cruel, frightening, or humiliating.
- Use language or behaviour towards children that is inappropriate, harassing, abusive, sexually provocative, intended to humiliate or culturally inappropriate.
- Consume alcohol, illicit drugs or tobacco when working with any Children or Young People
- Give a gift to a Child or Young Person engaged in an SMJFL / Club program, activity, or service without the permission of their Department Head / President and the Child's or Young Person's parent/guardian.
- Transport any Children or Young People without the permission of their Department Head or Club Committee person delegated with their authority and the Child's or Young Person's parent/guardian.
- Arrange contact, including online contact, with Children or Young People outside of the SMJFL's programs, activities, or services; or
- Use any computers, mobile phones, video cameras, cameras, or social media to exploit or harass children, or access child exploitation material.

By observing these standards, you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the Child Safety Officer or a Club or SMJFL.

I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to always abide by it.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_