



Professional Behaviours as a Football Coach



As a football coach you play a crucial role

in the development of the young people in your care. We thank you very for your commitment to the young people you coach and the time and energy that you give to



so many. Northamptonshire FA, your league and your club will try to give you as much support as you require to be successful as a coach.



I have read and agree to abide by and promote these professional standards

Name

Date

As part of this process we have written this leaflet which outlines the professional behaviours your club, your league and Northamptonshire Football Association require of you. In doing this, we want to ensure the protection of the young people in your care and also yourself. Please read and sign them and thank you again for being involved in the development of the game and the players in future years.



The welfare of the young people is paramount

You should ensure the safety of all young people by providing effective supervision, (always have at least 2 adults this is a requirement for insurance reasons also) and pre-plan coaching sessions.

Ensure any allegations of abuse of any kind or poor practice are challenged and / or reported. Bullying and other incidents and accidents should be recorded. Parents must be informed about behaviour issues and injuries to their children.



You should report accidents or incidents of alleged abuse or poor practice to your club and / or county Welfare Officer.

Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.

Gain parental consent before the photography of children. Refer to The FA's photography guidance.

Physical contact should be minimal, time limited and age appropriate, the FA guidance is in the Safeguarding Children Workshop book.

You must treat information about children discretely and not disclose confidential matters, except to the club or county welfare officer.

Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before the development of performance.

Treat all young people fairly and ensure they feel valued. Have no favourites

Be a role model, displaying consistently high standard of behaviour and appearance (disciplined/committed/time keeping). Children learn by example

Do not allow any rough or dangerous play, bullying, or the use of bad language or inappropriate behaviour.

Administer minor first aid in the presence of others and where required refer more serious incidents to the qualified medical personnel. Advise parents/guardians to get qualified medical advice and record the incident/advice.

Establish and address the additional needs of disabled participants or other vulnerable groups, seek advice from the County Welfare Officer or County Disability Officer if needed.

Have access to a telephone for immediate contact to emergency services if required.

You should not offer lifts to children or young people outside the requirements of the activity. Any impromptu or emergency arrangement of lifts should be recorded and should be able to be justified if questioned.

Adults should not engage in personal email or telephone communication with children. This includes texting, messaging, skypeing, social networking sites etc. Follow The FA's guidance on social media.

Respect and listen to the opinions of young people

Don't spend excessive amounts of time alone with children unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Parental consent for trips and outings should be obtained and The FA Trips and Tournaments followed and your club Welfare Officer involved.

Adults or a young person must never share a bed with a child nor share a bedroom unless it involves a dormitory situation.

Refrain from smoking and drinking alcohol during club activities including coaching sessions and matches.

Never take children to your home, unless they are family friends and with parents consent.



Communication with young people should never be sexually suggestive.

Never engage in a sexual relationship with a young person for whom you are responsible.

Appreciate the efforts of all young people and not over-train the young people.

Be positive, approachable and offer praise. Seek feedback from your players and listen.



Adults working in one to one situations should ensure there is visual access by other adults and remote or secluded areas should be avoided.

Take time to explain coaching techniques to ensure they are clearly understood

Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.

Encourage all children NOT to discriminate on the grounds of religious beliefs, race, gender, social class or lack of ability.

Never use sanctions that humiliate or harm young people.

Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover.



Make the sport/activity fun



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Useful Policies

[Click here to Download](#)

Social media

Anti-bullying

Travel, Trips & Tournaments

Respect Codes of Conduct

Equality Policy

Photography Guidelines

FA Guidance on Physical contact

Criminal Records Guidance

[Access the Respect Videos on YouTube here](#)

The FA Safeguarding Children Workshop

Please ensure that your Safeguarding knowledge is up to date, you need to re-new your course every 3 years. You can book onto our course [via our website](#)



Criminal records checks

The 2012 Protection of Freedoms Act requires that anyone involved on a regular basis in regulated activity involving young people has a criminal records check (DBS). As a coach you need to complete a check through your club Welfare Officer. This needs renewing every 3 years.



contacts

Your Club Welfare Officer

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County Welfare Officer
& Respect Lead Officer
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Development Officers

Joe Dunmore
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Stuart Smith
Amber Wildgust (disability football)



Join The FA Licensed Coaches' Club and raise the standards for your players [here](#)

www.TheFA.com