



MCE FC CODE OF CONDUCT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. This Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in the Moreton Bay Region, Brisbane and Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants, spectators and all other associated parties.
- 1.2. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence in the honest and professional conduct of Matches or in the integrity and good character of its participants.
- 1.3. This Code:
 - 1.3.1. applies to the conduct and behaviour of all FFA, Member Federations, Competition Administrators, Clubs, Players, Officials and Agents;
 - 1.3.2. applies to all forms of organised football that MCE FC participate, including, eleven-a-side, modified football, futsal, indoor and beach football;
 - 1.3.3. continues to apply to a Member even after that Member's association, registration, employment or engagement has ended, if that Member breached this Code while a current Member.

2. BRINGING THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE

- 2.1. A Member must not bring MCE FC or the game of football 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:
 - 2.2.1. discriminatory behaviour, including public disparagement of, discrimination against, or vilification of, a person on account of an Attribute;
 - 2.2.2. 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;
 - 2.2.3. offensive behaviour, including offensive, obscene, provocative or insulting gestures, language or chanting;
 - 2.2.4. provocation or incitement of hatred or violence;
 - 2.2.5. spectator or crowd violence;
 - 2.2.6. intimidation of Match Officials, which may take the form of (but is not restricted to) derogatory or abusive words or gestures toward a Match Official or the use of violence or threats to pressure a Match Official to take or omit to take certain action regardless of where such action is taken;
 - 2.2.7. 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;
 - 2.2.8. corruption, including offering a Benefit or an advantage to a Player or an Official in an attempt to incite him or her to violate FIFA Statutes or FFA Statutes;
 - 2.2.9. abuse of position to obtain personal benefit;
 - 2.2.10. commission or charge of a criminal offence; or
 - 2.2.11. any other conduct, behaviour or statement that materially injures the reputation and goodwill of MCE FC or football generally.

- 2.3. MCE FC, its spectators, officials and participants are 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 are entitled to have their privacy respected and this Code is not intended to apply to private activities engaged in by a Player or an Official that are not in the public domain.

3. LIABILITY FOR SUPPORTER AND SPECTATOR CONDUCT

- 3.1. MCE FC, its spectators, officials and participants are responsible, and liable, for the conduct and behaviour of its supporters, whether at home or away Matches.
- 3.2. Each patron at a Match must comply with the Spectator Code of Behaviour and it will be the responsibility of all MCE FC spectators, officials, and participants 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 sector of a stadium are regarded as the guest Club's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.

4. BETTING, MATCH-FIXING AND CORRUPTION

- 4.1. A Member must not engage, directly or indirectly, in:
 - 4.1.1. 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 competing in a Match;
 - 4.1.2. the throwing or fixing of a Match; or
 - 4.1.3. any conduct or behaviour intended to unfairly affect the result of a Match, 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 Match 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 an Agent must not:
 - 4.2.1. accept bribes through the offer, promise or acceptance of any Benefit in return for violating his or her duties; or
 - 4.2.2. 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 bona fide media interview).
- 4.3. A person who is under prosecution for action unworthy of a football management position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc) or who has been prosecuted for such action in the last 5 years cannot be involved in football management, including as an Official or an Agent.
- 4.4. A Member must immediately report to the MCE FC Executive Committee any offer of a bribe or any attempt by a person in breach of this clause 4.

5. DISPARAGING MEDIA STATEMENTS

- 5.1. A Member must not make any statement in public, including any contribution to television, radio or print media that:
 - 5.1.1. is disparaging or derogatory of a Match Official, opposition team or any Player or Official; or
 - 5.1.2. is disparaging or critical of MCE FC without reasonable basis or justification.
- 5.2. A Member must not make or issue any public or media statement or release that incorporates a reference to MCE FC or any affiliated entity of MCE FC, without MCE FC's prior written consent.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS, REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS & OFFICIALS

- 6.1. Representative Players and Officials are the public face of MCE FC football and so their behaviour is subject to greater scrutiny. Accordingly, a Representative Player and an Official must:
 - 6.1.1. at all times behave in a manner that promotes and upholds the highest standards of integrity, dignity and professionalism;
 - 6.1.2. comply with any and all protocols and procedures implemented by MCE FC, including in relation to alcohol, curfews and inappropriate relationships; and
 - 6.1.3. not act in a manner contrary to the best interests of the team.
- 6.2. A Representative Players or Officials in relation to behaviour that relates only to that Player's employment or engagement by that Club, including:
 - 6.2.1. unexplained absence from a Match or official training session or team meeting;
 - 6.2.2. failure to wear designated clothing to a team promotion or activity;
 - 6.2.3. conflicting sponsor brand visible during a team promotion or activity; and
 - 6.2.4. behaviour that brings MCE FC into Disrepute, including inappropriate behaviour in public (such as a nightclub brawl).
- 6.3. MCE FC may impose disciplinary sanctions on a Representative Player and an Official in accordance with Part V of the FFA Statutes subject to the following maximum sanctions:
 - 6.3.1. the imposition of a fine;
 - 6.3.2. suspension up to a maximum of 2 Matches; or
 - 6.3.3. expulsion from the representative team (provided that the Club has already enforced sanctions against the Player on at least 3 separate occasions).

7. NOTICE AND DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

- 7.1. A Football Administrator may enforce the terms of this Code and invoke the sanctions only if it has given the party alleged to have infringed this Code:
 - 7.1.1. reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
 - 7.1.2. notice of possible sanctions; and
 - 7.1.3. the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.
- 7.2. The imposition of a sanction is immediate or as otherwise notified by the party imposing the sanction.
- 7.3. If a Member disputes the sanction or purported action taken under this Code that party may appeal that sanction by lodging their dispute with the Executive Committee requesting the matter be reviewed, provided that dispute is lodged within 7 business days of notice of the sanction.