


## PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents and spectators have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. All children play football because they first and foremost love the game. It is important to remember that however good a child becomes at football, it is important to reinforce the message to parents and spectators that positive encouragement will contribute to a player's enjoyment, sense of personal achievement, self-esteem and development.

Adult behaviour must be of the highest standard to set the correct example to the players. It is expected that all parents and spectators will conduct themselves in a manner that is both honourable and in keeping with the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

### **PARENTS AND SPECTATORS OF THE CLUB SHOULD ALWAYS:**

- Be positive and encouraging towards all of the children, not just their own
- Not engage with their child once the child has been put in the charge of their Coach
- Avoid from coaching their child or any other players during games or training sessions
- Respect all players, staff and parents from the opposing team
- Support positively and offer players encouragement not criticism
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing
- Respect the decisions of match officials at all times. In many cases, newly qualified referees often young in years, are appointed to youth matches in order to gain experience and these officials should be given encouragement and support
- Set a good example for your child to follow and understand that it is their sport you are watching not your own

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- Parents and supporters are to watch games on the outskirts of the fields. Only Players, Coaches and Club Officials are to access the fields at all times
  - No parent is to approach any coach or coaching staff regarding any issue at training or games, an email is to be sent instead to and will be dealt with accordingly.

**I UNDERSTAND IF I DO NOT FOLLOW THE CODE, ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS MAYBE TAKEN:**

- Obligated to leave the match
- Issued with a verbal warning from the Club Committee
- Requested by the Club not to attend future games
- Required to leave Merrimac FC along with any dependents

