



CLUB POLICES

At Blackstone United FC we aim to promote positive engagement with one another by encouraging behaviour of a high standard, striving to cultivate respect for self, others and the game. We offer the chance for all players to improve, share experiences and find a place to belong. With this in mind, we have outlined the expectations of those involved in our club.

Blackstone Football Code of Behaviour for Players

- Always play by the rules.
- Play for the fun of Football.
- Respect your opponents, coaches, and referees. Without them, there would be no competition.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will yours.
- CONTROL YOUR TEMPER. Remember, deliberately distracting or verbally abusing other players or a referee is NOT ACCEPTABLE or permitted.
- Be a good Sport. Acknowledge the other team's good play as you would like them to acknowledge yours.
- NEVER ARGUE WITH THE REFEREE (they won't change their mind). The only person who is to talk to the referee during the game is the team captain.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- No foul or abusive language – this means swearing.
- No smoking/vaping, alcohol, or drugs at any time
- Respect your coaches and managers. Be willing to listen, learn and develop as a player.
- While Captains can talk to Match Officials during games this is to be done in a respectful manner.
- NO jewellery is permitted on any playing field. (This includes Wedding Rings, Bobby Pins)
- NO wristbands of any kind are permitted to be worn (Plastic, Rubber, or any other material)
- NO band aids covering jewellery are permitted.

Breaches of this Code of Behaviour may result in disciplinary action being undertaken by the Blackstone United FC Committee in addition to any QCSA disciplinary action.

Club Code of Behaviour for Coaches/Managers/Officials

- Always play by the rules.
- Always wear your coach's/manager's ID lanyard on game days.
- Play for the fun of Football.
- Respect your opponents, coaches, and referees. Without them, there would be no competition.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will yours.
- CONTROL YOUR TEMPER. Remember deliberately distracting or verbally abusing your/other players or a referee is NOT ACCEPTABLE or permitted.
- Acknowledge the other team's good play as you would like them to acknowledge yours.
- NEVER ARGUE WITH THE REFEREE (they won't change their mind).
- Never use foul or abusive language – this means swearing.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- Have an open mind to learn. The outcome of a game yields winners and learners. The only loser is the person who learnt nothing.
- No foul or abusive language – this means swearing.
- No smoking, alcohol, or drugs at any time
- Coaches/Managers/Officials are to work under the guidance of the Blackstone United FC Committee
- Coaches/Managers/Officials are to keep control of their team at all times
- Coaches/Managers/Officials are not to question the calls of the Match Officials in an improper manner.
- No-one likes to lose but if your team did their best then be proud of yourself for them.

Breaches of this Code of Behaviour may result in disciplinary action to being undertaken by the Blackstone United FC Committee in addition to any QCSA discipline action.

Club Code of Behaviour for Parents/Guardians and Spectators

- Children play organised sport for FUN. Most times they don't care whether they win or not, only that they played well and enjoyed themselves.
- Never criticise or ridicule a child for making a mistake. Always be positive and encouraging.
- Applaud good performances and effort by all individuals and teams.
- Congratulate players regardless of the outcome of a game.
- Always respect the referee's decision and teach your child to do the same.
- Show respect for your opposition. Without them there would be no game.
- Always demonstrate appropriate social behaviour.
- Do not use foul or abusive language.
- Violence in any form by players, parents, coaches, officials and spectators is NEVER ok
- No alcohol, smoking/vaping, or drugs at or near the games or training.
- Show respect for coaches and managers. Encourage your child to listen and respect the instructions being given to them.
- Don't approach a player while play is in progress. The referee will call on the coach or manager if necessary.

If you have any complaints, take it to the coach, manager or club official, out of earshot of the players. Breaches of this Code of Behaviour could result in disciplinary action being undertaken by the Blackstone United FC Committee. This disciplinary action is independent and may be additional to any action taken by QCSA.

The Vested Official

You may be asked to help out at a game by being the Vested Official.

This is a serious role:

- The Vested Official is identified by wearing the orange vest and is the person responsible to control the crowd.
- There must be one official from each team wearing the Vest at every match
- The Vested Official should make themselves known to the referee prior to the game
- The Vested Official should not be involved with the running of the team.
- The Vested Official must sign the Match Card to indicate to the QCSA who they are.
- The Vested Official is to observe the game from where the majority of spectators are, not on their own and not from within the coach's area.
- The Vested Official is to deal with off field problems, such as referee abuse, smoking/vaping in wrong areas, alcohol, or other issues are present. If an issue becomes too big for the Vested Official they are to seek assistance immediately.
- During the game, the Vested Official has a responsibility to the referee to assist in the control of the match and in particular to maintain appropriate standards of behaviour by their team's spectators.
- If the referee requests specific assistance, support or information, the Vested Official must be seen to be supporting them.
- Vested Official must be at least 18 years old and fit to undertake the obligations outlines above
- teams can be fined and have a loss of points for supplying and recording on the match card the presence of a Vested Official.
- *for Senior Teams, QCSA does recognise that a lot of teams have just the players and no spectators. In these cases, the Vested Official may be one of the players. That person must still sign the match card and do all the duties as outlined above. If there are any spectators with your team, then this is not allowed.*

Discipline

If a player receives a red card or their 3rd yellow card within the season, they will automatically receive a 1 week suspension from the QCSA. Blackstone United FC will inform the coach/manager and player of this, and any additional action from the QCSA, as well as any other sanctions placed on the player by our club. It is the coach's/manager's responsibility to ensure the player does not play whilst suspended.

Blackstone United FC Fees

For players to compete in weekly matches they need to be financial. Players need to pay their registration fees prior to the commencement of the first game of the season. Players who need to arrange to pay off their fees over multiple payments must contact the treasurer and make these arrangements prior to the commencement of the season. Players who are not financial on the Friday morning prior to a game will be placed on internal suspension and be ineligible to play weekend games. Internal suspension will only be removed once a player becomes financial.

Contacting the QCSA/QCSRA

If you require any information to be sent to the QCSA or QCSRA during the season you need to contact the Secretary or the President. No player/coach/parent is to contact the QCSA/QCSRA directly as fines and loss of points can apply.

Social Media

While social media is an excellent way to communicate with players and parents, it is also important that this platform is used in a positive way. Any social media page that is linked with Blackstone United FC needs to be managed appropriately. That means:

- Members be updated – this is especially important for team pages that are used over several years. Please ensure players no longer in the team are removed.
- Commentary on these pages is to be positive and encouraging
- Admins are to remove any inappropriate comments/posts and advise the Blackstone United FC Committee as appropriate.

The comments section on the Facebook pages of QCSA/QCSRA are to also be used appropriately. Players/coach/parents are not to place negative or defamatory thoughts and opinions on these sites. As previously mentioned, if you have any issues or questions regarding QCSA/QCSRA these are to come via the secretary or president.

Complaints

If you have any complaints or concerns about any situation regarding your team, spectators, the other team, other spectators, the referees or anything else, please contact the club president via president@blackstoneunitedfc.com.au The club executive will then discuss the matter and take the appropriate action.