



Parents and Guardians Policy for Children Playing at Mornington Soccer Club

1. Your child/children are your responsibility

Children with any health issues; including but not limited to social/learning difficulties, health problems, must notify the Club. This can be done on the child's enrolment form. Once a team is allocated, ensure that your Team Manager is aware:

- a. If it is a health issue that can be life threatening. If this is the case, it is the parent's responsibility to be at all training and games with a clear Action Management Plan. The child is not to be left in the care of someone else without them knowing how to take care of your child in an emergency.
- b. If it is a mental health issue, it is up to the parent's discretion if they wish to inform the club and how much detail is provided.
- c. If the child has learning or social difficulties, then it is the parent's responsibility to be at all training and games to supervise and discipline your child.

It is the Club's preference that at least parent/guardian needs to be at all training sessions to supervise children regardless of health issues. This is not the Coach or Team Manager's responsibility. If you are unable to stay, ensure you have asked another parent to supervise your child; do not assume that other people will take care of your child.

The Club is in no way responsible for supplying or administering medicine under any circumstances. Medication of any kind, is not held at The Club. It is the parent's responsibility to make sure any required medication, including analgesics or Ventolin inhalers are available at all times for their child.

These procedures have been set up for the safety and wellbeing of all children. It also enables the Coach to get on with coaching, which benefits the whole team.

2. Queries to Team Manager

All queries/discussions/concerns regarding the team, or any individual player are to be conducted with your Team Manager first, when practicable, not the Coach. The Team Manager can pass on any compliments, complaints or queries to the Coach at the appropriate time. The outcome of this discussion can then be shared with you.

If, as a result of your discussion with the Team Manager you feel that further action needs to be taken you will need to contact the relevant age group co-ordinator. All contact details for age group coordinators are available on the club website.

All discussions held with the Team Manager or other Club Officials are confidential and will not be disclosed without your permission.

In order to ensure that any coaches under the age of 18 are operating in a safe and respectful environment, under no circumstances is any adult, outside the Club Representatives, to approach a coach under 18 to discuss matters relating to the team, player performance or team selection unless there is either a Club Representative, Team Manager or another club allocated adult present.

3. Communication

As soon as practicable, provide your child's Team Manager with your email and mobile phone details. The Team Manager will keep you up to date on any changes to training or game day requirements.

If your child will not be attending training and/or games, let the Team Manager know as soon as possible. It can be very difficult for a Coach to operate successful training sessions when they don't know how many children are attending training. If the Coach is aware that a child is not going to be at a game, it gives them an opportunity to find other players and/or rearrange the team.

4. Uniforms

At enrolment all players will be sized for uniform. The uniforms are then ordered and sent to the Club. The Team Manager, with assistance from the committee and age level coordinators will collect all uniforms for the team and hand them out at training. Any queries, concerns or complaints regarding uniform are to be directed to the Team Manager first who in turn, will refer this matter to the age level coordinator if they are unable to resolve them first.

5. Injuries

If a child sustains an injury at training or during a game that requires medical attention, the Team Manager needs to be notified of the details as soon as possible. Under some circumstances part, or all the costs incurred may be claimed through your insurance with the FFV.

The incident needs to be reported, by the Parent, to the Club immediately and the FFV within 30 days.

6. Red Cards

For football related red cards, (ie, 2 x yellow, accidental handball on goal line, last man foul) under FFV rules of competition, the player will receive a red card, which will result in a match forfeit penalty, that is determined by the FFV, and The Club will incur a monetary fine for that incident. In this situation The Club will wear the costs of this fine.

For non-football related red cards, (ie, foul/abusive language, fighting, disrespect to match officials), the same FFV rules applies, but the fine will be paid for by the player. The player will be ineligible to take the field until that fine is paid in full to The Club, and player passport will be revoked.

7. Parent Code of Conduct

This code of conduct shall apply to Parents and Guardians. Any breach thereof shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Mornington Soccer Club which may result in expulsion of child and/or Parent/Guardian from the club.

- a) Remember that children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- b) Encourage your children to participate, do not force them.
- c) Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- d) Encourage your children to always participate according to the rules.
- e) Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- f) Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by all teams.
- g) Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- h) Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.

- i) Show appreciation of coaches, officials and administrators. Without them your child could not participate.
- j) Respect the facilities that are being used.
- k) Do not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form whether lawful or otherwise, including but not limited to the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting.
- l) Do not carry, light or throw flares or missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators).
- m) Do not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority.