

Donacarney Celtic Football Club

Introduction

This Personal Handbook will act as a guide for the players and members of Donacarney Celtic FC to the behaviour and expectations that the club will have of you, but just as importantly, what you should expect from your club.

Player's Entitlements

Players of Donacarney Celtic FC are entitled to:

- Be safe.
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect.
- Participate in soccer on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability and stage of development.
- Be happy, have fun and enjoy soccer.
- Make a complaint in a appropriate way and have it dealt with through a proper and effective complaints procedure.
- Be afforded appropriate confidentiality.
- Be listened to and to be believed.
- Players should also be encouraged to realise that they also have responsibilities to each other, children, fellow players, coaches and volunteers with the same degree of fairness and respect.
- Treat the changing rooms and facilities of all Clubs, including your own, with respect.
- Players must consistently display high standards of behaviour.
- Teamwork, effort and enjoyment are as important as winning. Learn to win and lose with dignity – "Be A Sport".
- Help when asked by coaches and officials, and thank coaches, officials and other volunteers who conduct the event.

Player's Code of Conduct

- Play because **you enjoy football**, not to please your parents/guardians or coach.
- Play fairly, do your best and have fun.
- Abide by all club rules.
- Keep high standards of fair play.
- Respect opponents, they are not the enemy, they are partners in a sporting event.
- Shake hands before and after each match, who ever wins.
- Do not use foul or abusive language towards officials, opponents or supporters.
- Do not become involved in disputes with officials, opponents or supporters.
- Let the referee handle incidents in the game. Do not retaliate against opponents.
- Do not applaud sending's-off or the errors of opponents.
- Accept apologies from opponents when offered.
- Respect fellow team members and support them when they do well and when things go wrong.
- Treat players from minority groups with the same respect you show other people.

Players should *not*:

- Cheat.
- Use abusive language or argue with the referee, officials, team mates or opponents.
- Use violence, use physical contact (except when it is allowed within the rules).
- Bully.
- Tell lies about adults or other children.
- Spread rumours.
- Take banned substances to improve performance.
- Smoke or use alcohol.
- Behave in a manner that may bring the name of Donacarney Celtic FC into disrepute.

Code of conduct for Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians must appreciate that their children's involvement in playing soccer should be primarily for his/her own personal enjoyment.
- Parents/guardians must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat all equally.
- Parents/guardians must adhere to all guidelines laid down by the Constitution and the Code of Conduct of the Club and the rules of the SFAI.
- Parents/guardians must place the well being and safety of each player above all other considerations.

Players Personal Handbook

- Parents/guardians must develop an appropriate supportive relationship with both the coach and their child based on mutual trust and respect.
- Parents/guardians should, at the outset and where appropriate, seek clarification with the manager and players, of exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from the coach and the player.
- Parents/guardians must never coach the child/player during the game.
- Parents/guardians must emphasise the importance of **striving** to win, not winning itself and praise effort and performance more than results.
- Parents/guardians must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Parents/guardians must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Do not become involved in disputes with officials, opponents or supporters.
- Do not use foul or abusive language towards officials, coaches or fellow members, opponents or supporters.
- As persons responsible for the well-being of young people it is inappropriate to smoke in their presence at any time.
- Let the referee handle incidents in the game.
- Do not applaud sending's-off or the errors of opponents
- Treat the changing rooms and facilities of all Clubs, including your own, with respect.
- Parents/guardians must consistently display high standards of behaviour.
- Parents/guardians must not use physical violence or threaten anyone.
- Recognise the value and importance of coaches who are all volunteers. They give their time and resources for free, to provide football for your child.
- Help when asked by coaches and officials.
- Thank coaches, officials and other volunteers who conduct the event.
- Parents/guardians are expected to be in attendance at training sessions and matches and if not available, a contact number must be given.

Code of Conduct for Supporters/Spectators

- Remember that although children play organised soccer they are not mini professionals. Do not place excessive pressure on children to perform to unrealistically high expectations. Children play soccer to develop their skills, to have fun and enjoy the game.
- Be on your best behaviour and lead by example. The behaviour of a team's supporter will often be remembered long after the result of the game. Be remembered for the right reasons.
- Applaud good play, sportsmanship and best effort by the visiting team as well as your own.
- Welcome and respect all your teams' opponents. With out them there would be no match.

- Condemn the use of violence in all forms at every opportunity.
- Verbal abuse of players, match officials or opposing supporters cannot be accepted in any shape or form. Players or match officials should never be regarded as fair targets for ignorant or abusive behaviour.

Club Rules

House Rules

- All players must arrive in good time for training and matches.
- Where players are to be collected, a designated person should be there 10 minutes before the end of training or matches.
- Club Registration and subscriptions must be paid on time.
- Where supplied, club track suit/training gear should be worn at all club activities.
- Respect must be shown to everyone including team mates, opposition, referees, coaches, managers and all members of the club.

At Donacarne Celtic FC

- We want all children/players of Donacarne Celtic FC to have fun and develop skills in a safe and fair environment where standards of behaviour are just as important as winning.
- Recognise that competition and winning is an important goal, however, winning at all costs does not meet the needs of any young players.
- Donacarne Celtic FC is aware that recent research suggests that increasing numbers of children leave the sport between the ages of eight and thirteen. The most common reasons given, is that sport was no longer fun; they did not get to play and an overemphasis on winning.
- Therefore, we have to make every effort to ensure that we keep a balanced approach, making sure all players get a chance to play and strive to keep the fun in soccer.

Use of photography

- All children/players must be appropriately dressed.
- Photography should be focused on an activity and not a particular player.
- Images should, whenever possible, be recorded in groups of at least four players/children.
- Images published should **not** be accompanied by full name or personal details of the player/ child.
- Parents/guardians should notify the club if they do not wish to allow their child's image to be recorded or used on the club website.