

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

WORKING WITH CHILDREN Reg. No: \_\_\_\_\_

**NWFL Player / Coaches / Officials Code of Conduct (R 38.12)**

As a player / coach / official of the North West Football League (NWFL), I agree to uphold this Code of Conduct. I understand that as an integral component of my participation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct that is in the best interests of the game and the League. I also understand that the NWFL will be filming all games and I will do my best to uphold the standards outlined in the following Code of Conduct.

**Player / Coaches / Officials Responsibilities****1.1 Behaviour**

Players / coaches / officials aspire to the highest standards of sportsmanship and professional conduct. Players / coaches / officials must conduct themselves in a manner so as not to bring Australian Rules football, the NWFL or member clubs into disrepute. Inappropriate behaviour could result in the player / coach being suspended from games or deregistered by the league.

This clause applies to a players / coaches / officials behaviour which:

- (i) occurs during the course of any match, training session, NWFL or Club function,
- (ii) involves public comment,
- (iii) involves conduct deemed by the Match Committee to have brought the game, the NWFL or member clubs into disrepute

Examples of behaviour by members which brings the code and club into disrepute may include:

- Excessive and inappropriate swearing
- Inappropriate heckling or sledging
- Abuse directed at any official, player or spectator
- Misuse of social network sites for bullying players, criticising umpires, Club or League officials
- Inappropriate behaviour because of excessive drinking
- Instances where members attend their club under the influence of illegal or performance enhancing drugs

**1.2 Playing**

NWFL players coaches and officials must not wilfully engage or participate in any activity which may cause or aggravate any injury or illness and which prevents players from playing AFL Football to the best of the individual's ability.

Inappropriate abuse directed at any playing official, player or volunteer during a fixture is also unacceptable and can be held to be in breach of the Code. Inappropriate behaviour during or after a game could result in the player / coach or official being suspended from games or deregistered by the League.

**1.3 Property**

NWFL Players / Coaches / officials must show due regard for the property and facilities of the League and member clubs and the property, facilities and staff of other providers that an NWFL player / coach / official may utilise during any authorised activities.

Where an NWFL player / coach / official breaches this provision, he or she may be required to pay the relevant person or body an amount equivalent to the cost of repairing or replacing the damage the player / coach caused to the property and or facility.

**1.4 Social Media**

All players who are actively registered with an affiliated club of the NWFL must at all times held themselves in the highest possible regard in relation to the use of social media. This includes but is not limited to social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok. If you are authorised to comment as a representative of the Football Body you must not publish, or otherwise permit the publication by a 3rd party of, content which, without limitation:

- Breaches employment obligations;
- Breaches the AFL National Vilification & Discrimination Policy;
- Damages the brand and reputation of the NWFL, as the case may be;
- Misrepresents a personal view as that of the NWFL; and
- Is criminal in nature or might otherwise give rise to the breach of a civil law.
- Is used to make defamatory comments about players, officials, umpires who are affiliated with the NWFL.

***Members are advised that engaging in social media in the wrong manner may result in disciplinary action.***

**2. Minor Discipline Breaches**

Minor disciplinary breaches are to be dealt with at club level under the clubs code of conduct by the relevant club body.

**3. Major Discipline Breaches****3.1 Racial and Religious Vilification**

Players / coaches / officials must refrain from making any comment that vilifies or tends to vilify persons based on their race, religion, colour, sex, sexual orientation or other related characteristics.. Inappropriate behaviour could result in the player / coach / official being stood down from games or deregistered by the League. The player / coach / official will have the right to appeal a decision through the complaints/appeals procedures of the NWFL.

**3.2 Substance Abuse**

AFL Illicit Drugs Policy and AFL Anti-Doping Code prohibit the taking of illicit and or performance-enhancing substances. It is the responsibility of players / coaches / official to report suspected illegal or inappropriate use or distribution of alcohol or drugs to their club or the League match committee. Any player, coach or official found to be using or distributing illegal substances on the Club premises and at any time while representing the Club will be immediately suspended until a police investigation has been completed.

**3.3 Threatening Umpires**

Any player found guilty by the NWFL Independent Tribunal of the offence of “threatening behaviour” towards an umpire will be suspended for a period of 8 weeks. The player shall have the right to appeal the guilty verdict through the appeals procedures of the NWFL, but the suspension cannot be reduced if the guilty verdict is upheld. **Repeat breaches would result in the player being de-registered from the NWFL and member clubs.**

**3.4 Complaints / Charges**

Breaches of the code of Conduct will be referred to the NWFL Executive and dealt with in accordance with Clauses 4.6 and 53.3 of the NWFL Rules and Regulations

**As a player / coach / official participating in the North West Football League (NWFL), I agree to uphold this Code of Conduct. I understand that as an integral component of my participation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct that is in the best interests of the game and the League. By registering with the NWFL I also understand that I will be filmed whilst playing in this competition.**

**PLAYER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Print name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

**CLUB** \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

**Registration No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_