



## Harpenden Colts FC – Codes of Conduct (2020)

By registering as a playing member, you confirm that you agree to abide by the FA Code of Respect and the Codes of Conduct for the Club and any league in which the playing member participates - as may be amended from time to time and notified to you.

The Club's Codes of Conduct for Players, Parents/Guardians & Spectators and Coaches & Volunteers are as follows:

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### PLAYERS

**“Play your best. Be your best”**

**We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.**

As a player, you have a big part to play. That's why The Football Association is asking every player to follow a Respect Code of Conduct.

**When playing football, I will:**

- Always play to the best of my ability and for the benefit of the team
- Play fairly and be friendly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee and my coach/manager
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee
- Shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game
- Listen carefully and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club
- Encourage my team-mates
- Respect the facilities – both at home and away
- I will not deliberately try to harm or upset opposition players with my words or my actions

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my Club, the County FA or The Football Association:**

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave the club.

In addition:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club.
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## **PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND SPECTATORS**

**“If we behave positively during practice and matches, our children will too”**

**We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.**

This club is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment.

Remember children's football is a time for them to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills. *Winning isn't everything.*

Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times.

### **I will:**

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – offer encouragement for next time
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by Harpenden Colts FC, the County FA, League or The Football Association:**

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or County FA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course

- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

In addition:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.

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## **COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS**

**“Set the standard for a great game”**

**We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.**

In The Football Association’s survey of 37,000 grassroots participants, behaviour was the biggest concern in the game. This included the abuse of match officials and the unacceptable behaviour of over competitive parents, spectators and coaches on the side line.

Play your part and observe The Football Association’s Respect Code of Conduct in everything you do.

**On and off the field, I will:**

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the laws and celebrate the spirit of the game
- Promote fair play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match official’s decision and encourage players to do the same
- Never enter the field of play without the referee’s permission
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Be aware of the potential impact of bad language on others
- Be gracious in victory and defeat
- Respect the facilities – both home and away

**When working with players, I will:**

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
- Ensure all parents/carers of all players under the age of 18 understand these expectations
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Encourage each player to accept personal responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football for each player's best interests

**In volunteering with Harpenden Colts, I understand that:**

- I must comply with the Philosophy of the Club, the Club Rules and the Policies of the Club
- I must only collect, hold and process personal information of members and other volunteers of the Club in accordance with the Club's Privacy Notice and Data Protection Policy

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, or receive more than a single yellow or red card in any season, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my Club, the County FA, League or the Football Association:**

- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Monitored by another club coach or volunteer
- Required to attend an FA education course
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
- Required to leave or be removed from my role with the club

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