



AVALON SOCCER CLUB SPIRIT OF FOOTBALL

We all have a responsibility to uphold the integrity of the game whilst we are training, competing on the pitch or representing the club away from the field of play. Behaviour of players, coaches, parents and volunteers is of paramount importance to all of us at Avalon. Football is a game, everyone involved in it is representing this club and we want all our members to act within the spirit of football.

- Play by the rules and never argue with an official. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Players, parents, coaches, control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials, volunteers and opposition players is not an acceptable or permitted behaviour for Avalon Soccer Club.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your teammates. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you, and cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Be a good sport. Win, Lose or Draw, respect your opponent.
- Treat all participants in football as you like to be treated. Do not bully and respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion. Avalon is an inclusive club. All are welcome.
- If you are a player, participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents, teachers or coaches.
- If you are a coach or parent remember that many players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun; create a positive, fun and respectful environment.
- Never ridicule or yell at a player (particularly young players) for making a mistake or not winning and be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- If you are a parent do not force an unwilling child to participate in football; children are involved in football for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules and focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skillful play by all participants and support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Have fun.