



Dereham Dribblers

Code of Conduct

1. Purpose

This Code of Conduct sets the standards of behaviour expected of everyone connected with the Club. It supports a safe, inclusive and enjoyable environment and reflects the standards and codes of positive behaviour promoted in grassroots football by relevant governing bodies and competition organisers.

This Code applies to all Club activity including training sessions, matches and tournaments, meetings and social events, travel connected to the Club and Club communications (including social media and messaging groups).

2. Our Standards

Everyone involved with the Club must, at all times:

- Treat others with dignity and respect
- Promote fair play and good sportsmanship
- Follow the rules of walking football and any competition rules
- Respect match officials and their decisions
- Never engage in discriminatory, harassing, bullying, abusive or threatening behaviour
- Never publicly criticise or undermine match officials
- Play your part to create a positive and welcoming environment

3. Adult Players and Members

On and off the pitch, players and members will:

- Play fairly and safely, following organiser/referee instructions
- Respect teammates, opponents, match officials and volunteers
- Manage emotions and avoid aggressive conduct
- Avoid dangerous play and respect walking football rules
- Accept decisions without dissent
- Avoid offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures
- Support and encourage others, including new or returning players

4. Coaches, Session Organisers and Club Officials

Those leading sessions or acting in an official capacity will:

- Set a positive example and promote Club values
- Treat all participants fairly and consistently
- Communicate constructively and avoid humiliating or intimidating behaviour
- Prioritise welfare and safety
- Address poor behaviour promptly and calmly
- Report concerns to the Welfare Officer where appropriate

5. Spectators, Visitors and Guests

Where spectators or guests are present, they must:

- Show respect to match officials and participants
- Support positive play from all teams
- Never use offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Follow venue requirements and Club directions

6. Equality and Respect

The Club has zero tolerance for discrimination, harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation. This includes behaviour related to any protected characteristic and applies both in person and online.

This Code should be read alongside the Club's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, Anti-Discrimination Policy, Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy and Safeguarding Policy (Adults at Risk).

7. Social Media and Messaging

This Code applies to all Club communications. Members must not:

- Post or share abusive, threatening or discriminatory content
- Target individuals or encourage others to do so
- Share private information to embarrass others

Online misconduct will be treated as seriously as on-pitch behaviour.

8. Reporting Concerns

Concerns about behaviour should be reported to the Welfare Officer as soon as possible. If the Welfare Officer is involved, concerns should be raised with the Chairperson or another Committee member.

Where appropriate, matters may be referred to any relevant governing body, competition organiser or regulatory authority.

9. Breaches and Sanctions

If this Code is breached, the Club may take proportionate action including:

- Informal guidance
- Formal warning
- Behaviour agreement
- Suspension from Club activities
- Termination of membership
- Referral to any relevant governing body, competition organiser or regulatory authority where relevant

Serious incidents may result in immediate suspension pending investigation.

10. Acceptance

All members are expected to comply with this Code of Conduct. The Club requires members to confirm their acceptance as part of membership or renewal procedures.