

Square FC & Square Rangers

Code of Conduct for Team Managers and Coaches

(Originally drafted: 10 January 2006 / Last updated: 6 August 2007)

Introduction:

Square FC provides football on Saturday mornings for children and young people aged 9 to 18. All Square FC teams play in the Christian Youth Football League.

Square Rangers provides football on Saturday mornings for children and young people aged up to 13. Square Rangers plays in the South Beds Saturday League.

Code of Conduct:

1. Square FC and Square Rangers accept that the expectations and attitudes of team officials (e.g. managers/coaches and their assistants) have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards:
 - other players
 - match officials
 - team managers/coaches and their assistants
 - spectators
2. Square FC and Square Rangers believe that all team managers / coaches and their assistants should adhere to the FA Code of Conduct for Coaches (which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sports Coaches).
3. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should display consistently high standards of behaviour. They should, at all times, be positive role models.
4. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should consistently display high standards of behaviour. They should, at all times, be positive role models.
5. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
6. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
7. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies. They must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
8. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect. They should see value in each player in the squad.
9. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should assemble a team for a competitive match from within the squad based on ability, effort and attitude.
10. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should make changes to the team for a friendly match (e.g. by giving players without a lot of match practice a chance to show what they can do).
11. Team managers/coaches and their assistants (and not players, parents or other supporters) always have the last word with respect to team selection and formation, and substitutions made – or not made – during the game.
12. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should speak to substituted players and substitutes not used during the game.
13. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should encourage the players at every opportunity and cheer when appropriate.

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14. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
15. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
16. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parents or carers) what is expected of them and also what they, as players, are entitled to expect from their manager/coach.
17. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
18. Team managers/coaches and their assistants must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the rules of the game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the rules of the game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
19. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should show respect to all match officials, and to the players, supporters and team officials of both teams.
20. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should not use abusive, insulting, offensive, inflammatory and/or racist language under any circumstances.
21. Team managers/coaches and their assistants should encourage players to win with humility and lose graciously. They should remain positive, enjoy themselves and keep things in perspective and should not measure achievement solely by match results.
22. If a contentious issue arises during the match (e.g. behaviour of members of the opposing team, a match official's interpretation of the off-side law, etc.) team managers/coaches and their assistants should speak calmly and respectfully to the referee and/or assistant referee *at half-time or the end of the game*. Under no circumstances should they distract (or berate!) a match official (or anyone else) from the touch-line during the game.
23. Should the contentious issue remain unresolved team officials and supporters should bring the matter to the attention of the club Chairperson or Secretary at the earliest opportunity so the club can respond appropriately.
24. Team managers/coaches and their assistants are welcome to attend the special services at The Square (Dunstable Methodist Church) for players and their families.
25. On match days managers/coaches and their assistants:
 - should be punctual and well-prepared
 - should guide players
 - should coach players without the ball
 - should give constructive feedback to players at half-time
 - should be ready to listen to constructive feedback from players
 - always have the last word with regard to team tactics and squad discipline
26. Square FC and Square Rangers will ensure that all team managers/coaches and their assistants know about and understand the club's Child Welfare and Protection Policy.
27. Square FC and Square Rangers will ensure that all team managers/coaches and their assistants know about, understand, agree with, and adhere to this Code of Conduct.