

# **POLICY**

## **Code of Conduct for Club Members**



Cornish Sharks AFT is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with the Club Secretary or Welfare Officer.

Any complaint received by the Club will be taken seriously and fully investigated by the disciplinary committee, members of which are selected from the Club Committee. The panel will normally be between 2 and 4 members, selected to ensure no conflict of interest.

In the case of serious allegations the Club member may be suspended with immediate effect whilst the investigation is pending.

Following a decision, the club member will be notified of the disciplinary committee's decision at the earliest opportunity.

All players, coaches and committee members are expected to sign up to this Code of Conduct as a condition of their membership of the Club and to accept the disciplinary process and any decisions made by the disciplinary committee.

## **DECLARATION**

As part of its Clubmark Accreditation, the Cornish Sharks AFT hereby adopts and accepts this Code of Conduct as a current operating guide regulating the actions of its members. All players, coaches and committee members are understood to have accepted its content as a condition of their membership. Copies available by downloading from the Club website or hard copy attached to player's agreements.
























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## Code of Conduct for Club Members



As a member of Cornish Sharks AFT you are expected to abide by the following club rules:

-  Promote fair play and play within the rules and the spirit of the laws of American Football displaying and promoting high standards of behaviour;
-  Always respect the game officials and publicly accept their decisions, never engaging in public criticism. Speak to my team captain/Coach if I have a problem relating to the game;
-  Speak to opponents, teammates and my coaches with respect;
-  Control your emotions and refrain from using offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour;
-  Inform a coach or club official of any unacceptable treatment/abuse;
-  Encourage all players and do not enter into any type of abuse/ bullying either on the pitch or off the pitch;
-  Think before you post comments on Social Networking sites such as Facebook, My Space, Twitter etc., that may bring the club into disrepute – consider the Club’s equity policy;
-  Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all;
-  Play the sport for enjoyment and because you want to;
-  Recognise and appreciate the efforts, loyalty and commitment of coaches, game officials, other players, committee members, families and supporters;
-  Keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform your coach or players representative if you are going to be late;
-  Report any injury pre-training/game immediately to the Coach or players representative;
-  Be a Sportsman and win with dignity and lose with grace – shake hands with the opposing team and the match officials at the end of every game;
-  You must wear suitable kit for training and game uniforms as defined by Club Committee;
-  You must remove all jewellery and ensure nails are short for training and games;
-  You must pay any fees for training or events promptly;
-  You are not allowed to smoke or use drugs on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions;
-  Any club member being investigated/charged by police for serious offences may be suspended or excluded from the club until the outcome of such investigation is made known, after which the disciplinary committee will decide their future with the club on a case by case basis;
-  You should familiarise yourself with all Club policies which are available for download from the website including health & safety, equity, safeguarding children and vulnerable adults; codes of conducts and Club constitution;
-  Do not bring the game of American Football into disrepute;
-  Have patience, we are all human.