



GFNC Player Code of Conduct

1 Purpose

The Gisborne Football Netball Club Code of Conduct strives to:

- promote and strengthen the good reputation of the Gisborne Football Netball Club (GFNC);
- deter conduct which could reflect poorly on the standing and reputation of the game, and the GFNC;
- ensure that competition is conducted upon the basis of athletic prowess and natural levels of fitness and development and not on any pharmacologically enhanced performance;
- protect players from using substances which may cause acute or long term harm to their bodies; and
- educate players to understand the dangers and consequences of the use of performance enhancing prohibited and/or illicit substances.

2 Guidelines

2.1 Applicability

This policy applies to all players when representing the club. Players are considered to be representing the club when:

- engaging in any activity organised or sponsored by the GFNC;
- when wearing apparel that indicates affiliation with the GFNC (such as clothing branded with the GFNC logo); and
- when engaging in social media conversations where the participant's connection with the GFNC is obvious or implied.

2.2 Behaviour

Players **must**:

- refrain from making comment that vilifies or tends to vilify persons on the basis of their race, religion, colour, disability, sex, or sexual orientation, or other related characteristics;

- comply with all contractual obligations; including all AFL and GFNC policies, Netball Australia Integrity Framework Policies and all legislative requirements
- be team players;
- control their temper and treat all players as you would like to be treated – fairly;
- play by the rules;
- co-operate with coaches, umpires and team-mates;
- never argue with umpires or other officials;
- care for and respect the uniform and equipment provided;
- play for their own enjoyment and to improve skills;
- comply with the anti-doping prohibited and/or illicit substance requirements of this policy;
- comply with the regulations of the Victorian Commission for Gambling & Liquor Regulation regarding the provision and consumption of alcohol including to those under 18 years of age
- refrain from any behaviour which may bring GFNC and/or its reputation into disrepute
- comply with Child Safe obligations

2.3 Anti-doping

All members of community football clubs are bound by the AFL Anti-Doping Code under the laws of Australian Football. All community netball clubs are required to comply with the Netball Australia Anti-Doping Policy.

Sport Integrity Australia is responsible for implementing Anti-Doping Codes in Victoria at all levels of competition. As a result, **it is possible that Sport Integrity Australia could test players at community level, and if they do attend training or match day, players notified of their requirement for a doping test must comply with the request. The Committee of the GFNC reserves the right to request that Sport Integrity Australia attend training or match day events to conduct anti-doping tests.**

Players **must**:

- undertake a doping test by Sport Integrity Australia if required to do so;
- **not** purchase or use any prohibited and/or illicit substances;
- **not** purchase supplements over the internet;
- before purchasing or using any substances, review the Sport Integrity Australia website or contact the Sport Integrity Australia hotline; and
- **not** be involved in the supply of prohibited and/or illicit substances.

NOTE: The Sport Integrity Australia Hotline can be contacted on 1800 161 361 – they can advise if a substance is on the prohibited list.

3 Implementation

3.1 Penalties

3.1.1 Behaviour

Players found to be in breach of behavioural guidelines of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the GFNC Rules of Association. This may include suspension, suspension of match payments, contract termination, expulsion from the club, referral to the appropriate authorities or any other measure the committee of the GFNC deems to be reasonable.

The following mandatory sanctions will apply should a GFNC Disciplinary Subcommittee find any player/s to be in contravention of the regulations of the Victorian Commission for Gambling & Liquor Regulation regarding the provision and consumption of alcohol including to those under 18 years of age:

- i) Drinking alcohol when under the age of 18 at any GFNC game, function or event. Minimum 2 week game suspension.
- ii) Supply of alcohol by any adult to any minor at any GFNC game, function or event. Minimum 4 week game suspension.
- iii) Bringing alcohol into any BFNL ground/reserve during any BFNL game. Minimum 4 week game suspension.
- iv) Bringing alcohol into any GFNC function or event. Minimum 4 week game suspension.
- v) Games suspensions to be served during the playing season (home & away and/or finals) and for games where the player is available for selection.

3.1.2 Anti-doping

You do not have to be tested to breach the code and receive a sanction. Sanctions under the AFL Anti-Doping Code or the Netball Australia Anti-Doping Policy can prevent a person from performing any role at any sporting club including playing, coaching or being a support staff member. This will include participation in an event, game or activity managed by any sporting organisation with similar obligations under Sport Integrity Australia requirements.

The GFNC may also apply behavioural penalties if a player is sanctioned under the AFL Anti-Doping Code or the Netball Australia Anti-Doping Policy.

Any suspicion of criminal conduct will be referred to the appropriate authorities.

3.2 Appeals

Appeals against penalties imposed under this policy will be dealt with in accordance with the GFNC Rules of Association (in the case of disciplinary action), and/or in accordance with the AFL's or Netball Australia's Anti-Doping Code (in the case of sanctions).