



2024 Coach Code of Conduct

All Coaches within the FIDA League are to uphold the conduct expectations, below.

1. Coaches will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of their involvement in Australian Football, by refraining from any discriminatory practices including, but not limited to, discrimination based on race, religion, gender, ethnic background, special ability/disability or sexual orientation, preference, or identity.
2. Coaches will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of Australian Football and the Rules of their Club and League/Association.
3. Coaches will be reasonable in the demands they make on the time commitments of the Players in their care, having consideration for their health and wellbeing.
4. Coaches will be always supportive, and they will refrain from any form of personal or physical abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the Players in their care.
5. Coaches will have consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of their Players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in competition.
6. Where they are responsible for Players in the 5-18-year-old age group, they will strive to ensure that all Players gain equal playing time. They will avoid overplaying the talented Players, aiming to maximise participation, learning and enjoyment for all Players regardless of ability.
7. Coaches will stress and monitor safety always.
8. In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, a Coach will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the return of injured or ill Players to training.
9. Coaches will endeavour to keep informed regarding sound principles of Coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of their Players.
10. Coaches will always display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that Players understand and practise fair play.
11. Coaches will display and foster respect for Umpires, opponents, Coaches, administrators, other Officials, parents, and spectators.
12. Coaches will ensure that Players participate in a positive environment where skill-learning and development are priorities and not overshadowed by a desire to win.
13. Coaches eject the use of performance-enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Anti-Doping and Illicit Drugs policies.
14. Coaches shall always mentor and encourage their players to play in the ***Spirit of The Game*** as outlined in the front of the FIDA By-Law handbook and within the **Player Code of Conduct video and Appendix 2.**