



MONEYGALL FOOTBALL CLUB

Moneygall FC Coach and Volunteer Conduct Policy

Moneygall FC values the commitment and dedication of our coaches and volunteers, who play an essential role in the development of our players and the overall success of the club. This policy outlines the expected standards of behaviour for coaches and volunteers, ensuring that all interactions with players, parents, officials, and the wider community are conducted with respect, professionalism, and integrity.

1. General Conduct

Coaches and volunteers are expected to:

- **Act as role models** for players, demonstrating professionalism, respect, and good sportsmanship at all times.
- **Promote a positive and inclusive environment** where all participants feel valued, safe, and respected.
- **Adhere to the rules and regulations** of the game, the club, and the relevant football associations.
- **Show loyalty to the club** and its values, maintaining a high standard of integrity and ethical behaviour.
- Avoid any actions or behaviour that could **damage the reputation** of Moneygall FC.

2. Respect for Players

- **Prioritise the well-being and safety** of players at all times, both during training and matches.
- **Treat all players equally**, regardless of ability, background, or personal circumstances, ensuring that every player has the opportunity to participate and improve.
- **Promote a positive learning environment**, offering constructive feedback and encouragement while avoiding negative or overly critical comments.
- **Never engage in or tolerate bullying, harassment, or abusive behaviour** towards or between players.
- **Respect player confidentiality** and avoid discussing a player's private matters with others without consent.

3. Behaviour Towards Referees and Officials

- Coaches and volunteers must always show **respect towards referees and match officials**, regardless of their decisions.
- **Questioning or disputing** decisions on the field is strictly prohibited.
- Coaches should set a positive example for players by demonstrating **calm and respectful communication** with referees.
- **Abuse or intimidation** towards referees or officials, whether verbal or non-verbal, will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

4. Interaction with Parents and Guardians

- **Maintain open and respectful communication** with parents and guardians, keeping them informed about their child's progress, team updates, and club activities.
- **Listen to any concerns or questions** parents may have, and address them professionally and promptly.
- Avoid becoming involved in **personal disputes or confrontations** with parents or guardians, and refer any serious concerns to the appropriate club officials.
- Encourage parents and guardians to adhere to the **Moneygall FC Parent and Guardian Conduct Policy** and set a good example for their children.

5. Respect for Opposition Teams and Officials

- Coaches and volunteers must demonstrate **respect for opposition teams and their officials**, both before, during, and after matches.
- **Graciousness in victory and respect in defeat** is essential; under no circumstances should the opposition be disrespected or treated unfairly.
- Encourage players to **show sportsmanship** towards their opponents, congratulating them regardless of the outcome of the match.

6. Commitment to Player Development

- Coaches should focus on the **long-term development** of players, both in terms of skills and character, rather than solely on winning matches.
- **Individual player development** should be balanced with team objectives, and **all** players should be given the chance to contribute to the team's success.
- Encourage players to **enjoy the game**, fostering a love for football that goes beyond the desire for results.

7. Training and Match Preparation

- Coaches and volunteers are expected to arrive **on time** and fully prepared for training sessions and matches.
- **Planning and organisation** are key to effective training; sessions should be structured, goal-oriented, and engaging for all players.
- Ensure that all necessary **equipment** is available and maintained in good condition.
- Promote the importance of **fair play** and good conduct during both training and matches, reinforcing the values of Moneygall FC.

8. Safeguarding and Welfare

- Coaches and volunteers must always adhere to the club's **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy**, ensuring that the safety and welfare of children are the top priority.
- Any concerns regarding a child's welfare must be reported to the club's **Designated Safeguarding Officer** immediately.
- **Physical contact** with players should be limited and appropriate, used only when necessary (e.g., demonstrating techniques) and with the player's consent.
- Coaches and volunteers must not engage in any form of **inappropriate or personal relationships** with players under the age of 18.

9. Use of Social Media

- Coaches and volunteers must use social media **responsibly** and should not post anything that could harm the reputation of Moneygall FC, its players, or officials.
- **Personal social media accounts** should not be used to contact or engage with players under the age of 18.
- Coaches and volunteers should refrain from making **negative comments** about other teams, referees, or individuals involved in football, either publicly or privately online.

10. Sanctions for Policy Violations

Moneygall FC takes breaches of this policy seriously. Sanctions for violations will depend on the nature and severity of the misconduct and may include:

- **Verbal Warning:** Issued for minor violations, such as inappropriate language or poor side-line behaviour.
- **Written Warning:** For repeated minor offences or more serious breaches of conduct.
- **Temporary Suspension:** For serious violations, such as disrespectful behaviour towards officials, parents, or players, or failure to follow safeguarding procedures.
- **Permanent Dismissal:** In cases of severe or repeated misconduct, the coach or volunteer may be permanently removed from their role within Moneygall FC.

11. Disciplinary and Appeals Process

- **Disciplinary Committee:** Any alleged breaches of this policy will be reviewed by the Moneygall FC Disciplinary Committee. Appropriate sanctions will be determined based on the findings.
- **Appeals to Management Committee:** Coaches and volunteers have the right to appeal decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee to the Management Committee.
- **Appeals to Relevant League:** Should a coach or volunteer dispute a decision of the Management Committee, a final appeal may be made to the relevant league body.

12. Conclusion

Moneygall FC appreciates the contribution of its coaches and volunteers, and this policy is designed to ensure that everyone works together in a respectful and professional manner. By adhering to these guidelines, we can create a positive and supportive environment for our players to thrive.

This policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Approved by: Moneygall FC Management Committee

Effective Date: 07/10/2024

Review Date: T.B.C.