



# MONEYGALL FOOTBALL CLUB

## Moneygall FC Player Conduct Policy

At Moneygall FC, we are committed to maintaining a high standard of behaviour both on and off the field. This Player Conduct Policy sets out the expectations we have for our players and the consequences of failing to meet these standards. By promoting respect, discipline, and sportsmanship, we aim to create a positive and supportive environment for all.

### 1. General Behaviour

Players are expected to:

- **Act as ambassadors** of Moneygall FC at all times, both during matches and in the wider community.
- **Respect the rules** of the game and the instructions of coaches, referees, and club officials.
- **Maintain a positive attitude** in training sessions, matches, and other club activities.
- **Avoid foul language, aggressive behaviour, or unsporting conduct** towards others, including teammates, opposition players, referees, and spectators.

### 2. Respect for Referees

- **Referees' decisions are final** and must be respected, even if they appear to be wrong.
- **Questioning or challenging** the referee's authority on the pitch is strictly prohibited.
- Any form of **verbal abuse, dissent, or intimidating behaviour** towards referees will be taken seriously and could lead to immediate disciplinary action.

### 3. Conduct Towards Coaches, Club Officials, and Volunteers

- Players are expected to **follow the guidance and instructions** of their coaches and club officials at all times.
- **Disrespectful or defiant behaviour** towards coaches or club officials will not be tolerated.
- Players should **show appreciation** for the volunteers who help run the club and contribute to its success.

- Players are expected to **support and encourage** their teammates, fostering a positive team spirit.
- **Bullying, harassment, or any form of negative behaviour** towards fellow players, whether on or off the pitch, is unacceptable.
- All players, regardless of ability or experience, deserve to be treated with **respect and inclusion**.
- **Healthy competition** is encouraged, but players must always remember that **teamwork and sportsmanship** come first.

## 5. Respect for Opposing Players and Teams

- Moneygall FC players are expected to show **respect for the opposition** before, during, and after matches.
- **Taunting, mocking, or provoking** opposition players is not acceptable.
- Regardless of the result, players should *shake hands/fist bump and congratulate* their opponents, demonstrating respect and grace in both victory and defeat.

## 6. Behaviour Towards Spectators

- Players must remain focused on the game and avoid engaging with spectators in a negative manner. - Any **interaction with spectators** should be respectful, and players must not retaliate or respond to provocation from the crowd.

## 7. Training and Match Attendance

- Players are expected to attend all training sessions and matches **in official club gear** unless they have a valid reason for their absence.
- **Punctuality** is important: players should arrive on time, fully prepared, and with the correct kit and equipment.
- **Commitment** to the team is crucial, and players should inform their coach or manager if they are unable to attend a session or match well in advance.

## 8. Use of Social Media and Online Behaviour

- Players are reminded that they represent Moneygall FC, even when using social media platforms.
- **Offensive, abusive, or inappropriate posts** about fellow players, coaches, officials, or the opposition will not be tolerated and could result in disciplinary action.
- Social media should be used **responsibly and respectfully**, with players refraining from posting content that may harm the reputation of Moneygall FC or the sport.

## **9. Sanctions for Policy Violations**

Moneygall FC takes any breaches of this Player Conduct Policy seriously. Sanctions will be applied based on the nature and severity of the violation, and may include:

- **Verbal Warning:** For minor infringements, such as a lack of sportsmanship or minor disrespect during training or matches.
- **Written Warning:** Issued for repeated minor offences or a more significant breach of conduct.
- **Temporary Suspension:** For serious violations, such as disrespect towards referees, coaches, or club officials, players may be suspended from matches and/or training sessions.
- **Permanent Ban:** In cases of extreme or repeated misconduct, a player may be permanently banned from participating in Moneygall FC activities.

## **10. Disciplinary and Appeals Process**

- **Disciplinary Committee:** Incidents involving breaches of this Player Conduct Policy will be reviewed by Moneygall FC's Disciplinary Committee, who will determine the appropriate sanction.
- **Appeals to Management Committee:** Players have the right to appeal a decision made by the Disciplinary Committee to the Moneygall FC Management Committee for further review.
- **Appeals to Relevant League:** If a player disputes the decision of the Management Committee, they may appeal to the relevant league body, whose decision will be final.

## **11. Conclusion**

Moneygall FC is dedicated to providing a positive and inclusive environment for all players. By adhering to this Player Conduct Policy, players can contribute to the club's culture of respect, teamwork, and excellence. We encourage all players to take pride in their conduct and help uphold the values of Moneygall FC.

This policy may be reviewed annually and updated as required.

### **Approved by:**

Moneygall FC Management Committee

**Effective Date:** 07/10/2024

**Review Date:** T.B.C