



## Ballymena United Youth Academy Parent and Carers Code of Conduct

Ballymena United Youth Academy (Club) believes that parents and carers play a very important role in their child's development in sport. To that end, the Club would ask all parents and carers to contribute to the Club and their child's participation in sport, in particular the Club expects all parents and carers to:

1. Encourage but not force an unwilling child to participate in sport or in the Club.
2. Recognise that the child's enjoyment in sport and as a member of the Club is paramount.
3. Emphasise enjoyment and fun, praise and reinforce effort and improvement in the child's football and actively support their child's interest.
4. Complete and return the Registration/Consent Form pertaining to their child's participation. Detail any health concerns pertaining to the child on the consent form, in particular breathing or chest conditions. Any changes in the state of the child's health should be reported to the coach prior to coaching sessions. Inform the manager or coach if their child has been ill or hurt recently. Inform the manager or coach prior to departure from the field of play if the child is to be collected early from a coaching session.
5. Deliver and collect the child punctually to and from coaching sessions/matches. Ensure their child is properly and adequately attired for the weather conditions. Ensure that proper footwear and protective equipment are worn at **ALL** times. Any child not in possession of the fundamental requirements should not be permitted to participate. Ensure your child's hygiene and nutritional needs are met.
6. Promote and teach fair play by setting a good example. Encourage their child to play by the rules and teach them that they can only do their best. Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results. Teach their child that effort and teamwork are as important as winning.
7. Help their child to set realistic goals, improve their skills and develop a positive sporting attitude.
8. Never ridicule or shout at any child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
9. Encourage their child to show respect.
10. Acknowledge and applaud good play by all players, including opposing players. Parent/carers and guardians should set an example by being friendly towards the opposing team, its supporters and parent/carers.



11. Publicly accept an official's judgement and never question their honesty. Accept the referee/game supervisor's judgement.
12. **BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY ON THE SIDELINES; DO NOT EMBARRASS YOUR CHILD.**
13. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
14. Express any concerns about their child or the Club to the nominated officer.
15. Recognise the importance and value of coaches and others within the Club who give their time, expertise and resources **FREE** to provide opportunities for their child. Show appreciation and support the manager or coach.
16. Parent/carers should refrain from giving instructions to their own child or players whilst taking part in competitive games for the Club. Only the manager or coach should give instructions to the players. Parents and carers should give encouragement and not instructions as this leads to confusion. (Too many cooks spoil the broth).
17. Offer whatever assistance they can to the running of the Ballymena United Youth Academy and support the Club and their child where possible, i.e. by providing transport to training / competitions, watching matches and training sessions, making sure that their child has appropriate clothing and equipment, supporting fund raising and social events.
18. Be realistic, and promote their child's participation in playing football for **FUN**.

**Bullying is not acceptable behaviour towards anyone, whether staff/coach, parent/carer or child. Anyone found to be bullying others will be dealt with seriously, both in relation to the behaviour exhibited and the reasons for the behaviour**

Reviewed May 2021