



**Referee  
Code of Conduct  
Policy**

**Policy No:** FSCREF-001

**Revision No:**1

**Date:** March 2016

The following Code of Conduct is a guide to all FSC referees on the conduct expected of members. It should be read in conjunction with the FFA Code of Conduct and FSC Codes of Conduct.

Referees, like all officials, have a responsibility to promote high standards of behavior in, and associated with the game. It should always be remembered that Referees are the representatives of the Administration of the Game on the field of play and consequently carry a significant responsibility in ensuring the reputation of the Game is protected and enhanced.

Behavior of match officials has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the conduct of everyone involved in the Game, on the pitch, on the sidelines and generally.

Referees often involve themselves in other aspects of the game, including but not limited to roles such as: administrators, players and junior coaches.

There is a need, at all times to remember that, as a referee, the high standard of behavior expected on the field should also be exercised in those other endeavors to protect not only your integrity and reputation as a referee, but that of Referees' generally.

**I will:**

- Be honest and completely impartial at all times
- Avoid situations, which may lead to, or be construed as, a conflict of interest
- Ensure at all times that I know and understand the Laws of the Game and International Board decisions on interpretations of those Laws and any appropriate Competition Rules.
- Apply the Laws of the Game and Competition Rules fairly and consistently without fear or favour
- Manage every game in a positive, calm, confident and respectful manner
- Accept responsibility for my actions and decisions




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- Deal with all instances of violence, aggression, unsporting behaviour, foul play and other misconduct in an appropriate manner
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour from players and officials
- Exercise responsibility and place the safety and welfare of the players above all else showing concern and caution towards sick and injured players
- Support my match official colleagues at all times and never engage in public criticism of them nor any other football participant (including clubs, players, administrators). For the avoidance of doubt public criticism includes inappropriate comments on social media
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game at all times, both at, and away from, games
- Be a positive role model in behavior, personal appearance and in supporting my colleagues
- Communicate with the players and encourage Respect, Fair Play and the Spirit of the Game
- Respond in a clear, calm and confident manner to any appropriate request for clarification by the team captains
- Prepare physically and mentally for every match
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise reports within the time limit required for games in which I officiate
- Comply with all requirements and obligations of my membership of FSC Referees
- Abide by the FFA Code of Conduct and FSC Codes of Conduct.

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**By signing below, I acknowledge that as part of this code of conduct, I have also read, understood and I will abide by the following policy documents:**

- Policy No:** FSCREF-002 - Referee Withdrawal from Appointments Policy
- Policy No:** FSCREF-003 - Referee Team Sheet & Report Writing Policy
- Policy No:** FSCREF-004 - Referee Uniform Policy

**Football South Coast Disciplinary and Dispute Regulations  
Football South Coast Social Media Policy**

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code, I may be subject to sanction and/or required to appear before:**

- the FSC Referees’ Council; or
- FSC Referees’ Disciplinary Committee; or the
- FSC General Purpose Tribunal

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have read, understand and will comply with the FSC Referees’ Code of Conduct and all other related FSC policies as a member of FSC Referees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date