



At Shankill Football Club we strive to ensure the best possible environment for all those involved in football. We want all our players, whether super stars or just starting out, to feel they are a valuable member of the team. We believe that players, coaches and spectators are entitled to an enjoyable, safe and sporting environment free of abuse of any kind. We also believe that spectators, coaches and players have responsibilities to treat other participants and sports leaders with fairness and respect. Our mantra is participants have rights which must be respected but also have responsibilities that must be accepted.

At Shankill FC we believe our young players are entitled to

- A safe and respectful environment in which to play football
- Be listened to and to be believed
- Have fun and enjoy football.
- Have a voice in relation to their activities within football.
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect.
- Participate on an equitable and fair manner, irrespective of ability, disability, gender, religion, social class, etc.
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable.
- Make complaints and have them dealt with.

At the same time we also expect that our players will never

- Cheat
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules.
- Shout or argue with officials, team mates or opponents.
- Harm team members, opponents or their property.
- Bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player or gain advantage.
- Discriminate against other players on the basis of gender, disability, social class, religion or other

The following set of requirements outlines the code of conduct Shankill FC expects all contributors to adhere to. This code of conduct is a fundamental part of the terms and conditions that members sign up for when they register each year. The club intends to enforce this policy rigorously and will deal assertively with any serious or repetitive breach of this policy by players, club officials, parents or spectators where practicable.

Young players and their parents should talk to the Club Welfare liaison officer or any committee member if they encounter any problems or concerns.



## Guidelines for Players:

Have fun. Play for enjoyment, not just to please your parents or coach.

Play by the rules of the game and accept the referee's decision.

Play with control. Do not lose your temper, even when things go wrong

Play for yourself and your team – your team's performance will benefit and so will your own.

Be a "good sport". Applaud all good play whether by your team or the opponent. Win with humility – loose with dignity.

Respect your opponent. Treat all players as you would like to be treated.

Be organized and on time, tell someone if you are leaving a venue or competition

Do not "bully" or take advantage of any player.

Co-operate with the coach, team mates and opponents.

At the final whistle applaud and thank your opponents and the referee for the match.

Always remember that you owe a duty of care to your opponents. Tackle hard but fairly, do not intend to hurt your opponent.

Treat club leaders with respect, including managers, coaches, committee members and all club officials.

Abide by the rules set down by team managers & coaches when travelling to away events or whenever representing the club.

Behave in a manner that avoids bringing our club and sport in any way into disrepute.

## Guidelines for Managers:

Lead by example, on and off field, in both football and moral standards.

Develop your skills and footballing knowledge to the best of your ability in order to pass this on to your team and players.

Work in the best interests of the development of players.

Put the interests of the players and the club first in all matters.

Work to ensure your team performs to the best of its ability.



Positively support all activities arranged or promoted by the club.

Keep the club informed on all matters relating to your team, players, finance, etc.

Attend all Managers meetings.

Be committed to the standards and traditions of Shankill Football Club

Promote the good image and traditions of the club at all times.

Assist and help other teams (when required) in the interest of the club.

### Guidelines for Parents & Spectators:

Be on your best behaviour and lead by example. Undermining or abuse of players, coaches or referees, in any shape or form, is never acceptable. Players, coaches and referees should not be treated as fair game for spectators to vent their frustrations.

Do not publicly question the referee's judgement or question their honesty or integrity.

Please remember you are there to watch the game, not to coach the players

Young people are involved in soccer for their enjoyment, not yours.

Young people are learning to play football. They are not miniature internationals or premierships players

Encourage an appreciation of mutual respect in your child and set a good example by applauding good play by the visiting team as well as your own.

Encourage your child always to play by the laws of the game and in a sporting manner

Teach young children that honest endeavour is as important as winning, so that the result of each game is accepted without disappointment. Do not place emphasis on winning at all costs.

Never ridicule, humiliate or shout at young players for making a mistake or losing a match.

Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from soccer.

Recognize the value and importance of volunteer referees and coaches. They volunteer their time and resources to provide recreational activities for young people.