



# WILLIAMS LANDING FOOTBALL CLUB

## PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

Updated: January 2025

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### 1. OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Williams Landing Football Club (WLFC) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment where every player can develop their football skills, build friendships, and experience the joy of being part of a team. This Code of Conduct outlines the standards we expect from all players to maintain our positive club culture.

#### 1.1 What We Stand For

- **Respect** for all participants regardless of background, ability, or experience
  - **Inclusion** ensuring everyone feels welcome and valued
  - **Fair play** both on and off the field
  - **Personal development** through football and life skills
  - **Community spirit** supporting teammates and celebrating success together
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### 2. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A WLFC PLAYER

#### 2.1 Personal Conduct

**Play for the Right Reasons:**

- Participate for your own enjoyment, fitness, and skill development
- Set personal goals and work toward achieving them
- Embrace challenges as opportunities to improve
- Remember that football is a game - have fun while playing

### **Be Your Best Self:**

- Arrive punctually for training sessions and matches
- Come prepared with appropriate equipment and a positive attitude
- Give your best effort in every activity, regardless of the score or situation
- Take care of your physical and mental wellbeing

## **2.2 Respect and Inclusion**

### **Respect Every Person:**

- Treat all participants with dignity regardless of gender, cultural background, religion, sexual orientation, or ability level
- Use inclusive language that makes everyone feel welcome
- Stand up against discrimination, bullying, or harassment
- Celebrate diversity as a strength of our club

### **Value Different Perspectives:**

- Listen to teammates, coaches, and officials
- Be open to feedback and constructive criticism
- Support players who may be struggling or new to the team
- Recognise that everyone contributes differently to team success

## **2.3 Fair Play and Sportsmanship**

### **Play by the Rules:**

- Learn and follow the laws of the game
- Compete fairly without seeking unfair advantage
- Accept decisions made by match officials
- Play to the best of your ability while respecting opponents

### **Demonstrate Good Sportsmanship:**

- Show modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
  - Congratulate opponents and officials after matches
  - Support teammates through both success and setbacks
  - Represent WLFC with pride in all your actions
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# **3. INTERACTION WITH OTHERS**

## **3.1 Teammates and Club Members**

### **Build Strong Relationships:**

- Support and encourage all teammates during training and matches

- Offer help to players who need assistance with skills or understanding
- Resolve conflicts respectfully through discussion or by involving coaches
- Include new players and make them feel welcome

#### **Communicate Effectively:**

- Speak positively about teammates and club activities
- Address concerns directly with appropriate people (coaches, committee members)
- Avoid gossip or negative talk that could harm team unity
- Use constructive communication during matches to help teammates

### **3.2 Coaches and Officials**

#### **Respect Authority:**

- Follow instructions from coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers
- Ask questions when you don't understand something
- Accept coaching feedback as an opportunity to improve
- Demonstrate respect for all club volunteers who give their time

#### **Support Match Officials:**

- Respect referee decisions even when you disagree
- Allow your captain or coach to communicate with officials when necessary
- Focus on your own performance rather than officiating decisions
- Thank match officials at the end of games

### **3.3 Opponents and Other Clubs**

#### **Show Respect to Opponents:**

- Compete hard but fairly against all opposition
- Help opponents up when they fall
- Avoid provocative behaviour or unsporting conduct
- Recognise that opponents make the game possible

#### **Represent WLFC Positively:**

- Behave appropriately when visiting other clubs
- Respect opposition facilities and equipment
- Be a positive ambassador for WLFC in the broader football community
- Build relationships that strengthen football across all clubs

## **4. HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELLBEING**

### **4.1 Physical Health and Safety**

### **Take Care of Yourself:**

- Be honest with coaches about injuries, illness, or physical concerns
- Follow safety guidelines during training and matches
- Use appropriate protective equipment when required
- Maintain fitness levels appropriate for your age and level

### **Look Out for Others:**

- Report unsafe situations or behaviours to coaches immediately
- Assist teammates who may be injured during activities
- Respect physical boundaries and personal space
- Avoid dangerous play that could injure yourself or others

## **4.2 Mental Health and Wellbeing**

### **Seek Support When Needed:**

- Talk to trusted adults if you feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or worried
- Ask for help with any football-related or personal issues
- Support teammates who may be experiencing difficulties
- Recognise that it's okay to have bad days or struggle with confidence

### **Maintain Balance:**

- Balance football commitments with school, family, and other interests
  - Don't let football pressure negatively impact other areas of your life
  - Communicate with coaches if you're feeling overwhelmed
  - Remember that your worth as a person isn't determined by football performance
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# **5. DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

## **5.1 Online Behaviour**

### **Represent WLFC Positively Online:**

- Follow the club's Social Media Policy in all digital communications
- Think before posting - consider how content reflects on you and the club
- Avoid sharing inappropriate images or information about teammates
- Report cyberbullying or online harassment to trusted adults

### **Protect Privacy:**

- Respect teammates' privacy in photos and social media posts
- Ask permission before posting images that include other people
- Be cautious about sharing personal information online

- Understand that digital content can have lasting consequences

## **5.2 Communication Technology**

### **Use Technology Responsibly:**

- Follow guidelines for team communication apps and group chats
  - Include rather than exclude teammates in digital communications
  - Avoid using technology during training sessions or team meetings
  - Respect coaches' boundaries regarding digital communication
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# **6. EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**

## **6.1 Personal Equipment**

### **Take Care of Your Gear:**

- Arrive with clean, appropriate football equipment
- Label personal items to avoid loss
- Take responsibility for your belongings
- Inform coaches if you need help obtaining required equipment

## **6.2 Club and Venue Facilities**

### **Respect Shared Spaces:**

- Use club equipment carefully and return it after use
  - Keep change rooms and common areas clean and tidy
  - Follow venue rules at all training and match locations
  - Report damaged equipment or facilities to coaches
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# **7. UNDERSTANDING CONSEQUENCES**

## **7.1 Minor Issues**

### **Learning Opportunities:**

- Minor behavioural issues will be addressed through discussion and education
- Coaches will work with players to understand and correct problems
- Parents may be involved in discussions about repeated minor issues
- Focus on learning and improvement rather than punishment

## **7.2 Serious Breaches**

### **Serious violations may result in:**

- Temporary suspension from training or matches
- Requirement to complete educational activities
- Meetings involving players, parents, and club officials
- In extreme cases, termination of club membership

### **7.3 Support Throughout Process**

- Players will receive support to understand and learn from mistakes
  - Club will work with families to address underlying issues
  - Focus on rehabilitation and personal growth
  - Opportunity for redemption and return to full participation
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## **8. GETTING HELP AND SUPPORT**

### **8.1 Who to Talk To**

#### **Within the Club:**

- **Your coach** for football-related concerns
- **Team manager** for administrative issues
- **Child Safety Officer** for safety or welfare concerns
- **Club committee members** for serious issues

### **8.2 External Support**

#### **Professional Help:**

- **Kids Helpline:** 1800 55 1800
  - **Beyond Blue:** 1300 22 4636
  - **Lifeline:** 13 11 14
  - **School counsellors** for academic or personal support
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## **9. COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

### **9.1 Personal Growth**

- Set goals for football skill development and personal behaviour
- Seek feedback from coaches and teammates
- Reflect on your contributions to team culture
- Celebrate progress and learn from setbacks

### **9.2 Contributing to Club Culture**

- Suggest ways to improve team activities or club operations
  - Volunteer for club events and community activities
  - Mentor younger or newer players
  - Help maintain the positive culture that makes WLFC special
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## 10. CONTACT INFORMATION

### 10.1 Club Contacts

**General Enquiries:** [secretary@williamslandingfc.com](mailto:secretary@williamslandingfc.com)

**Child Safety Officer:** [secretary@williamslandingfc.com](mailto:secretary@williamslandingfc.com)

**Club President:** [president@williamslandingfc.com](mailto:president@williamslandingfc.com)

### 10.2 Emergency Contacts

**Emergency Services:** 000

**Child Protection:** 13 12 78

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## 11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT

### Document Control:

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  - Version: 2025.1
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*"At Williams Landing Football Club, every player matters. We are committed to helping you grow as a footballer and as a person while having fun and making lasting friendships."*