

## Senior Players – Code of Conduct

In addition to Volleyball Victoria's Fair Play Code, as a senior player in any activity held by or under the auspices of Australian Volleyball Federation, Volleyball Victoria, an Affiliated Association or an Affiliated Club you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event.

Sport serves as a vehicle for education, health, leadership and fair play for all who participate and are involved in volleyball. Our society enjoys celebrating the success and achievements of our sporting teams and individuals, and athletes/members are often chosen as role models by younger and aspiring athletes. In order to achieve all they can in their sporting pursuits and receive all the benefits listed above, athletes/members regardless of age, level of competition, sporting activity or ability need to be supported and afforded certain rights.

Athletes/members are also, however, required to meet certain obligations and responsibilities in order for all involved to benefit fully from their sporting pursuits.

It is therefore essential that our athletes/members operate professionally and with integrity both on and off the court and in their relationships with those who participate in or associated with volleyball.

### **From an ethical perspective, every athlete/member has the right to:**

- Compete and train in an environment free from discrimination, harassment and abuse.
- Be treated fairly, equally and with respect and dignity by coaches, officials, referees, fellow athletes/members, opponents and supporters.
- Enjoy volleyball and be united in sportsmanship and fair play.
- Compete and train in an environment free from drug cheats.
- A qualified and dedicated coach who respects the rights of athletes/members whom they work with.
- Guidance and support from coaches, support personnel and board/committee members.
- Encouragement and courtesy from the volleyball community.
- Access to educational and development opportunities, so that the athlete/member's current and future vocational needs are provided for.
- Be honest with their coach and supporting personnel (managers, physiotherapists, doctors, administrators, sports trainers) concerning illness, injury and ability to train fully within the program requirements.
- A fair process and the principles of natural justice being consistently applied, should the athlete/member become the subject of or involved in a complaint, allegation or investigation within volleyball.
- Access to clearly articulated legal and moral standards and requirements through codes, policies, rules, regulations, guidelines and procedures manuals as defined by Volleyball Victoria or an Association or Club.

**From an ethical perspective, every athlete/member is responsible for:**

- Contributing to a safe environment for other athletes/members and participants (including coaches, officials, referees, parents, administrators and support personnel) that is free of discrimination, harassment and abuse.
- Treating all athletes/members and participants fairly, with respect and dignity regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.
- Promoting fair play, team work and appropriate sporting behaviour.
- Contributing to the development of a child safe culture across the sport of Volleyball.
- Accepting victory and defeat with dignity and grace.
- Refraining from any behaviour that may bring volleyball or state, association or club into disrepute.
- Conducting yourself with integrity and honour both on and off the court and being a positive role model for others.
- Respecting the talent, potential and development of fellow athletes/members, competitors, coaches, referees and officials.
- Providing feedback to coaches, referees, officials, support personnel and other participants in a professional manner that is appropriate and sensitive to their needs.
- Maintaining an uncompromising adherence to volleyball's standards, rules, regulations, codes, by-laws and policies encouraging others to do likewise.
- Not using their involvement with volleyball, a member association or an affiliated club to promote their own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of the sport or the club.
- Being knowledgeable of and complying with the anti-doping rules set out by Australian Volleyball Federation in conjunction with the governing body Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA), Victorian Department of Sport and Recreation and/or Centre of sporting excellence or development (e.g. Academy of Sport, Australian Institute of Sport).
- Taking full responsibility for what you ingest and use in the context anti-doping and alcohol.

**In summary:**

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow players, coaches, referees, officials, parents/guardians and spectators regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
2. Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow team members and competitors.
3. Refrain from any form of harassment, abuse or discrimination towards others, especially children and young people.
4. Play by the Rules at all times and ensure that the game of volleyball is not brought into disrepute by your actions.

5. Maintain a high, professional standard of personal behaviour at all times. Especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are examples. Be a positive role model.
6. Refrain from using obscene, offensive or insulting language and/or making obscene gestures which may insult other players, referees, officials or spectators.
7. Do not engage in inappropriate and/or physical contact with players or officials/referees during the course of play.
8. Be aware of the FIVB Rules of the Game, AVF and Volleyball Victoria, affiliated Associations and Clubs rules, policies and guidelines. Understand your responsibility if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of their Codes of Behaviour.
9. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the referees. Be courteous and use the correct process when seeking a rule clarification.
10. Care and respect the uniform and equipment provided to you.
11. Accept responsibility for all actions taken. Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring you play within the rules. Reasonable care consists of showing due diligence in abiding by the rules and adhering to the referee/officials decisions.
12. Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to compete or train fully.
13. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
14. Be honest in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
15. Cooperate with coaches and staff in relation to programs that adequately prepare you for competition.
16. Do not engage in practices that affect sporting performance (alcohol, tobacco and drug use). Adhere to the Anti-Doping Policy, Alcohol Policy and Smoke Free Policy.
17. Do not do anything which adversely affects or reflects on or discredits the game of volleyball, Volleyball Victoria, the AVF, or any team, competition, tournament, sponsor, official supplier or licensee, including but not limited to, any illegal act or any act of dishonesty or fraud.

#### **Related Documents:**

Please reference and observe the principles of the **Child Safe Code of Conduct**