



WAIKATO UNICOL AFC

Unicol Code of Conduct

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

Players say they want a referee for every match, yet thousands of match officials worldwide drop out because of the abuse and intimidation they receive on and off the pitch. Respect your referee today and you may just get one for every match in the future.

Club culture is an important part of attracting young, developing players and retaining existing players, which are fundamental to building a strong club. Being observed as role models for fair play and exemplary behaviour by the public, prospective players (and parents of prospective players) allows Unicol to be seen as a healthy, safe and preferable option for senior Club football.

Play your part and observe Unicol's Code of Conduct for players at all times.

On and off the field:

- Adhere to the Laws of The Game
- Display and promote high standards of behaviour
- Refrain from gross intoxication at Unicol-related games, trainings and events
- Be punctual to all practices and games.
- Treat teammates, coaches, officials and opponents with respect
- If unable to make a practice or a game, notify the coach/manager and give as much notice as possible
- Display good sportsmanship, play fairly without danger to opponents or team mates
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in offensive, insulting or abusive language, gestures or behaviour
- Never engage in bullying, intimidation or harassment
- Remember that everyone makes mistakes
- Win or lose with dignity
- Shake hands with the opposing team and the referee at the end of every game and give a sincere cheer to both
- Praise the efforts of your team members for their contribution, not the results
- Let players play their own game and be constructive to help them improve
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others
- Comply with all Health and Safety requirements, policies and directives of the Club
- Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s)
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions
- Respect all equipment/venues and, upon failure to do so, accept liability for repairs/cleaning



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Any Club member who does not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by the Club, WaiBop or NZ Football:

- Be removed from the field of play, surrounding areas or event locations
- Be required to apologise to team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a warning from the coach
- Receive a written warning from the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Not be selected for the team
- Be required to serve a suspension from games
- Be fined
- Be required to leave the club

Coaches/Officials Code of Conduct

- Be a positive role model for all players
- It is the responsibility of all coaches & officials to ensure that all matches are conducted within the spirit and the laws of the sport
- Where there is a conflict between advantage for his/her own team and the good of the game, coaches shall place the good of the game above all else
- Ensure players time spent with you is positive:
 - They are deserving of equal attention and opportunities
 - Respect the rights, dignity and worth of everybody regardless of age, sex, race, religion or sexual orientation
 - Respect the talent, developmental stage & goals of each individual player
 - Help each player reach their full potential
- Team officials wishing to question, as distinct from disputing a referee's decision shall do so privately and well after the end of the game. Under no circumstances shall team officials remonstrate with referees on or adjacent to the field of play.
- Be professional in and accept responsibility for your actions
- Be punctual to games & practices
- Ensure that children under the age of 18 years are not left unsupervised at any time
- Language, manner, preparation and presentation should reflect high standards
- Display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved with the sport - this includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents & spectators
- Avoid any situation where you might be accused of inappropriate behaviour. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under the age of 18 years wherever possible.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard
- Comply with all Health and Safety requirements, policies and directives of the Club



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- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured players. Seek medical advice when required.
- Team officials shall ensure that all players and spectators are aware of the Players Code of Conduct and all Laws, Regulations, and Playing Conditions pertaining to the conduct of players, including Codes of Conduct for affiliated bodies.

In the first instance of a serious breach of conduct, the coach will be spoken to by the Director of Coaching. If the behaviour continues, they will be stood down and the matter brought to a committee meeting.

Spectators Code of Conduct

Good sport is about positive attitude. Together we can set the right tone and help make the game a success.

- Respect that people are involved in sport for fun and enjoyment
- Support good play and applaud good performance from all competitors
- Attempt to understand the rules of the game
- Learn the difference between supportive and abusive comments
- Accept the decisions of officials and coaches
- Display self-control on the sideline:
 - Always be positive
 - Never shout at or ridicule players
- Show your appreciation of the people who volunteer their time to make sport happen
- Remember that we are all capable of making mistakes
- Spectators should stand 1m from sideline and give way to linesman who needs clear view of the entire line
- At no time should spectators stand beside or behind the goal and under no circumstances should spectators enter onto the field of play
- Premier games may require spectators to be on the opposite side of the pitch to coaches (technical boxes are marked) allowing players to hear directions of coach from one side of pitch only

In the first instance of a serious breach of conduct, the spectator will be contacted by the Club Captain. If the misconduct is of a serious nature, then the Police may need to get involved.