



PLAYER AND PARENT WELCOME PACK



**PROUD TO BE AFFILIATED
WITH STAFFORDSHIRE FA**

WELCOME TO AFC FRADLEY

Welcome to AFC Fradley. The club has been created to provide a platform for children of all ages and abilities from Fradley and the surrounding areas to play football in a safe and fun environment.

We want our club to become the most fun, inclusive & successful football club in Staffordshire by using the best coaches, who will be empowered to deliver fun and informative football training sessions and matches whilst adhering to our clearly communicated ethos & beliefs. Above all else we want them to enjoy playing.

The focus of the club is based on the development of players, coaches and any other team volunteers. This creates an ideal platform for all members to focus on performance above results and creating long term development not only of the players but the club. The ethos of the club is aligned with the FA respect campaign, 'We only do positive' as we want everyone involved in our club to have a good experience of football especially our young players. We are also working on be involved in other diversity campaigns to be inclusive.

Meet the Committee

Chairman Darren Peck – 07528 640064 – darren.peck@afcfradley.org

Vice-Chairman Tosh Crompton – 07980 908483 – tosh.crompton@afcfradley.org

Welfare Officer Joanne Wilson – welfareofficer@afcfradley.org

Secretaries Cathy Fellows, Neil Jones and Lindsey Fryer – clubsecretary@afcfradley.org

Treasurer Fiona Archer & Patrick McCarthy – treasurer@afcfradley.org

Sponsorship opportunities sponsorship@afcfradley.org

LOOKING AFTER YOUR CHILDREN

AFC Fradley takes the safeguarding and welfare of children seriously. We are committed to providing a safe and fun environment for children to play football. Under the FA guidance, our coaches are qualified and DBS Checked. Committee members have also completed the FA safeguarding training and have been DBS checked. We follow the procedures and policies of the FA and attend regular meetings in order to keep up to date with football developments.

AFC Fradley Welfare Officer

Jo Wilson – Telephone 0345 222 1966 – email welfareofficer@afcfradley.org

If you have contacted the AFC Fradley Welfare Officer and you are not happy with the response or time taken to respond, please contact Staffordshire Football Association Welfare Office, Jan Scott, Designated Safeguarding Officer – telephone 01785 256994, ext 205 – mobile 07969 294023 – email support@staffordshirefa.com

If you have contacted Staffordshire Football Association Welfare Office and you are not happy with the response or time taken to respond, please contact the FA's Safeguarding Team – telephone 0800 169 1863, extension 6300 or 6400 – email safeguarding@thefa.com










NSPCC Hotline: 0808 800 5000

Childline: 0800 11 11




CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS 2022/2023

Our players' well-being, safety and enjoyment of playing football is one of the essential aspects of AFC Fradley, and we need everyone to help to support them in playing the game we all love.







We have created a parent and spectator code of conduct to help outline the behaviours we expect (parents can be much harder to manage than the children!):

-  Please remember that children play for fun and enjoyment.
-  This is not a professional sport, so please have fun watching them play.
-  Do not shout or criticise any player during the game.
-  I understand and agree if I am coaching or shouting instructions to my child or any others from the touchline, my child will be immediately taken off the field of play until I leave the coaching, giving instructions to the coach.
-  I can shout encouragement and positive support but can not coach or give instructions unless I am an official coach. I will know I am an official coach because I will wear a coach's tracksuit and be part of the coaching team.
-  I understand if I want to be able to give instructions and coach from the touchline, AFC Fradley will welcome me with open arms to join the coaching team (subject to an interview and safeguarding checks).
-  Respect the Referee's decisions even when you disagree with them.
-  Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials.
-  Appreciate good play from both teams.

Spectators' Area. If any area is not defined, please remain a sensible distance from the pitch

-  Remain behind the touchline along the side of the pitch and within the Designated Zone.
-  Please remain a sensible distance from the pitch if any area is not defined.
-  Never engage in offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.

If our supporters do not follow our code of conduct, we may need to take action; you will be:

-  Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official.
-  Required to meet with the Child Welfare Officer and Chairman.
-  Obligated to leave the match venue.
-  Requested by the club not to attend future games.
-  Suspended or have my club membership removed.
-  Required to leave the club.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

*If we behave positively
during practice and matches,
our children will too.*

*By setting a good example, we'll help
build a supportive environment in which
everyone can enjoy themselves.*

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Spectators and Parents/Carers

Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:

I will:

- Have fun; it's what we're all here for!
- Celebrate effort and good play from both sides
- Always respect the Referee and coaches and encourage players to do the same
- Stay behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- When players make mistakes, offer them encouragement to try again next time
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- I will make myself familiar with safeguarding practices & review guidance on **physical contact** (5.6) & **Acceptable Behaviours When Working With Young People** (5.7) documents on the safeguarding section of EnglandFootball.com

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning or asked to leave
- Required to meet with the club committee, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Requested not to attend future games, be suspended or have my membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents and/or issued a fine



Building society with mutual respect






*We ONLY
do
Positive.*

Please sign the AFC Fradley Code of Conduct for Parents section on the welcome pack form (link on page 8) to agree to abide by the rules above and you understand the consequences if you do not follow the Parents code of Conduct.






PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

We want our players to play for fun and enjoyment but also play fairly and within the spirit of the game. Below are some rules from the FA's Respect program we would like them to remember:



When playing football for AFC Fradley I will:

-  Always play to the best of my ability and for the benefit of my team.
-  Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee, and my coach/manager.
-  Never engage in bullying, offensive or abusive language, or any behaviour which may deliberately hurt a team mate or other player.
-  Play by the rules, as directed by the referee.
-  Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me.

I understand that if I do not follow the code I may be:

-  Required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, the referee or team manager.
-  Issued with a warning from the coach or the club committee.
-  Substituted or asked to miss a match.
-  Suspended from training.
-  Required to leave the club.

In Addition:

-  The FA could impose a fine and suspension against me.
-  Players are responsible for any fines raised against them (including for a yellow card).

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Play your best. Be your best.

Make sure you and everyone
around you has a good time
on and off the pitch.

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Young Players

Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:

When playing football, I will:

- Always play my best for the benefit of the team
- Play fairly and be friendly
- Play by the rules and respect the Referee
- Shake hands with the other team - win or lose
- Listen carefully to what my coach tells me
- Understand that a coach has to do what's best for the team
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club
- Encourage my team mates
- Respect the facilities home & away

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, I may:

- Be asked to apologise to whoever I've upset
- Receive a formal warning
- Be dropped, substituted or suspended from training



Building society with mutual respect

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do
Positive.

Please sign the AFC Fradley Code of Conduct for Players section on the welcome pack form (link on page 8) to agree to abide by the rules above and you understand the consequences if you do not follow the Players code of Conduct.

10 REASONS WHY PARENTS SHOULD STOP CONSTANTLY INSTRUCTING YOUNG PLAYERS IN GAMES

- 1** REDUCES PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS
- 2** DECREASES DECISION MAKING ABILITIES
- 3** DECREASES AUTONOMY
- 4** REDUCES YOUNG PLAYERS CREATIVITY
- 5** CHILDREN WILL ENJOY THEMSELVES MORE
- 6** INCREASES PRESSURE ON CHILDREN
- 7** CHILDREN WILL NOT LEARN FROM THEIR OWN MISTAKES
- 8** DECREASES CHILD'S COPING SKILLS
- 9** INCREASES ANXIETY AMONG YOUNG PLAYERS
- 10** PREVENTS CHILDREN FROM MASTERING LIFE SKILLS

MEDICAL DETAILS

Please complete the form online for each registered player for AFC Fradley.

ONLINE FORM

AFC FRADLEY SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

Purpose

With social media a prominent method of communication for the club and a key way we engage with our members, along with the wider community, it is important for us to have a policy to demonstrate how we ensure we are represented in a suitable way and can take action should the need arise. We are taking this opportunity to remind our players and supporters of the importance of ensuring that all our social networking streams should be used thoughtfully and responsibly.

While the Club positively encourages social networking among members, we are mindful of the need to ensure that all content is suitable for publication and does not breach any laws or common decency. It is not acceptable to post or communicate with members items that may include reference to a person's ethnic origin, colour, race, nationality, faith, gender, sexual orientation or disability, and any member found to have posted such items will be subject to disciplinary action. In addition, any abuse of match officials, opposition etc may be deemed by the FA to bring the game into disrepute and lead to disciplinary sanctions against both the author and/or the Club. Participants should be aware that comments which bring the game into disrepute, or are threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting, may lead to disciplinary action.

Cyber Bullying

All reports of cyber-bullying and other technology misuses will be investigated fully and may result in notification to the police where AFC Fradley is obliged to do so. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, suspension, or banning from membership of AFC Fradley. Members must be aware that in certain circumstances where a crime has been committed, they may be subject to a criminal investigation by the police over which the club will have no control.

Mobile and Online Communication with Children

Technology is moving very fast in this area. There are now many different ways for people to communicate. The risks posed by such methods of communication arise from:

- ⊗ The privacy. It is often one-to-one.
- ⊗ The wide range of content that can be transmitted, including content of a violent, sexual or hateful nature.
- ⊗ The ease with which images can be forwarded onto others.
- ⊗ The difficulty in knowing truly who you are communicating with. Where grooming happens, it often involves this type of communication.

In sport, there are additional risks:

- ⊗ Inappropriate pressure can be exerted by adults, particularly coaches, on children (such as to play when injured).
- ⊗ There can be inappropriate criticism of a young player's performance.

An official position or role within a club, such as Coach, can carry with it a level of authority and engender a level of trust that facilitates the control of a child.

Against this background, AFC Fradley will abide by all FA guidance with regard to mobile and online communication with children and vulnerable adults and will cascade any information for them to the parents (or carer) of that child or vulnerable adult. AFC Fradley will not directly contact a child or vulnerable adult directly by mobile phone or other medium unless prior consent is given by the parent or carer.

Club Communication Guidelines

All Age Group communications – for example fixture information, team availability – should be sent via a group medium, for example a WhatsApp group chat. Emails should only be sent using email groups comprising email addresses given by parents. An email should not be sent to a child unless the parent is also copied in.

Participants of such groups are determined by coaches of individual teams, and they will retain administrative rights over the group. As such, it is the coaches' responsibility to report any inappropriate use of the group and make decisions over what is appropriate or inappropriate content. Coaches should approach the committee if they require any advice or guidance on appropriate content. Equally, members of such groups should approach the coach with any concerns in the first instance, or if not possible or appropriate for them to do so, then they can approach the committee with concerns at any time.

SMS Messaging (Texting): Club Officials and Coaches should only communicate directly with individual children by text at any time, on any matter, if the parent or carer is copied on such communication or there is an immediate risk to the welfare of that child which can be lessened by such contact.

Sanctions

Any club member failing foul of this policy could face disciplinary action from the Club, which could lead to expulsion from the Club.

References:

FA Guidance

<https://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding/best-practice-downloads>

The club will look to use social media to engage with the local community and we may take photos and/or videos for this purpose:

To opt out of this, please tick the relevant sections on the welcome pack form (link on page 8).