

# PLAYER & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Active Melbourne City Sports (AMCS) is responsible for the governance of the sports involved in the Corporate Challenge, Pace the Tan and Race the Tan competitions. Overseeing the behaviour of players, player support personnel and spectators through the implementation of the Player & Spectator Code of Conduct is important in our continuing efforts to maintain the popularity and integrity of the competition.

The Code of Conduct is an effective means to deter any participant from conducting themselves improperly on and off the field, or acting in a manner that is contrary to the 'spirit of play'. While we understand that teams and individuals have different levels of passion and competitiveness, the purpose of AMCS programs and events is to promote enjoyment and the benefits of physical activity. In no way is a player, official or representative of any team competing in any sport within the Corporate Challenge to bring the competition into disrepute through any of the below listed behaviours:

- Unacceptable/coarse language
- Threatening any player, official, spectator or AMCS representative
- Unacceptable behaviour (physical or verbal intimidation)
- Physical violence
- Unsportsmanlike conduct (unfair play)

Violations of the Code of Conduct will be subject to the following disciplinary procedures:

## Unacceptable/Coarse Language (Swearing):

- 1st offence - one warning.
- 2nd offence - removed from the court for 5 minutes (2 goals in Netball)
- 3rd offence - removed from the court for the remainder of the match and with the following points awarded to the opposing team:
  - Netball - 3 goals
  - Basketball - 3 points
  - Soccer - 1 goal
  - Dodgeball - 1 set
  - Barefoot Bowls - 2 points

## Threatening Behaviour and Intentional Contact:

- 1st offence / yellow card - cautioned by referee and number noted
- 2nd offence / red card - removed from the court for the remainder of the match with no replacement, prohibited from playing the next scheduled match and with the following points awarded to the opposing team:
  - Netball - 3 goals
  - Basketball - 3 points
  - Soccer - 1 goal
  - Dodgeball - 1 set

# PLAYER & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

- Barefoot Bowls - 2 points
- Incidents will be reported by the Venue Manager to the AMCS Management Team

## Abuse or Showing Dissent to Umpires by a Player or Spectator:

- 1st offence / yellow card - cautioned by referee and number noted
- 2nd offence / red card - removed from the court for the remainder of the match with no replacement, prohibited from playing the next scheduled match and with the following points awarded to the opposing team:
  - Netball - 3 goals
  - Basketball - 3 points
  - Soccer - 1 goal
  - Dodgeball - 1 set
  - Barefoot Bowls - 2 points
  - Incidents will be reported by the Venue Manager to the AMCS Management Team

## Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Unfair Play):

The following are examples of unfair play that umpires are authorised to intervene if they occur:

- Time wasting
- Damaging the facility
- Dangerous behaviour
- Tampering with equipment
- Any other action that they consider to be unfair

Each of the above offences will attract the following penalties:

- 1st offence - one warning
- 2nd offence - removed from the court for 5 minutes (2 goals in Netball)
- 3rd offence - removed from the court for the remainder of the match with the following points awarded to the opposing team
  - Netball - 3 goals
  - Basketball - 3 points
  - Soccer - 1 goal
  - Dodgeball - 1 set
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  - Incidents will be reported by the Venue Manager to the AMCS Management Team

# PLAYER & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

- If a spectator commits any of the above mentioned violations, the captain of their supported team will be issued with the associated penalties.

Please note:

- Serious breaches of any aspect of the code of conduct may result in a direct red card (at the referee/umpire's discretion) and will result in the player being prohibited from playing the next scheduled match.
- If you receive 2 yellow cards\* in a match - you miss the next consecutive match
- If you receive 3 yellow cards\* during the season - you miss the next consecutive match
- If you receive 2 red cards\* during the season- you miss the next two consecutive matches
- If you receive 3 red cards\* during the season- you miss the remainder of the season
- Any other offences will be penalised at the discretion of the Active Melbourne City Sports umpires or referees
- Any disputes arising from such decisions will then be dealt with by the AMCS Venue Manager on duty at the time. The decision of the AMCS Venue Manager is final.

\*Please note: Not all sports utilise cards but operate off the same offence structure as above

## Warning Policy:

Participants are required to conduct themselves in a positive manner in accordance with this AMCS Player & Spectator Code of Conduct. Unsportsmanlike behaviour towards other players, or AMCS staff, by players or spectators will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

This Warning Policy outlines the process that will occur within a calendar year should a participant or team's behaviour during AMCS competitions and events be deemed not in line with the AMCS Code of Conduct.

1. Conduct Notification
  - a. The team captain will be contacted by phone post-match/event, where a player, players or supporter of that team has displayed behaviour in violation of the AMCS Code of Conduct towards other players, AMCS staff or umpires/referees. The team captain will be reminded that all players and supporters must act in accordance with the Code of Conduct at all times and that any complaints or grievances need to be:
    - i. Discussed in a calm and appropriate manner with the Venue Manager at the completion of the match, or:
    - ii. Brought to the attention of AMCS Management Team after the completion of the match

# PLAYER & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

2. Conduct Warning
  - a. This is a final warning. A written warning will be provided to the team captain in the following circumstances:
    - i. A second breach of the Code of Conduct in a calendar year, Or
    - ii. A serious first breach of the Code of Conduct (such as physical / threatening behaviour towards other players or AMCS staff)
    - iii. A meeting with the team captain and secondary contact may also be requested
    - iv. Any further breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in cancellation of the team's registration in the competition/event
3. Registration Cancellation
  - a. Where a third breach of the Code of Conduct in a given calendar year takes place, the team's registration will be cancelled with no refund, and all team members will be disallowed from participating in in any AMCS competitions or events for a period of two years. A meeting will be requested with the team captain and secondary contact to discuss the breaches of the Code of Conduct.

## Spirit of Play:

The 'Spirit of Play' involves RESPECT for:

- Your opponents
- Your own captain and team
- The role of the umpires/referees
- Your venue manager

This 'Spirit of Play' should be adhered to at all times throughout the Corporate Challenge.