



Tarwin Football Netball Club

Code of Conduct (2026)

1. Purpose

Tarwin Football Netball Club (TFNC) is committed to providing a *safe, inclusive, respectful and supportive environment for all members.*

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and club representatives while participating in football and netball activities, in line with the Member Protection and Codes of Conduct frameworks of AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria.

2. Scope

This Code applies to all behaviour during:

- Matches, training sessions, and competitions
- Club meetings, events, and social functions
- Travel associated with club activities
- Online and social media conduct

It applies to all participants, including: players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and spectators.

3. General Behaviour Expectations

All members must:

- Act with respect, fairness, and integrity
- Treat all participants with dignity regardless of age, gender, ability, cultural background, or role
- Abide by club policies, competition rules, AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria regulations
- Respect the authority of umpires, referees, officials, and club leaders
- Avoid harassment, bullying, discrimination, or abuse
- Promote a positive, inclusive, and safe club culture

4. Player Code of Conduct

Players must:

- Play by the rules and spirit of the game
- Display good sportsmanship at all times
- Accept umpire/official decisions without abuse or argument
- Avoid aggressive, violent, or unsporting behaviour
- Respect teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, and spectators

- Refrain from inappropriate language, behaviour, or substance use
- Not engage in behaviour that may bring the club or governing bodies into disrepute
- Must support club events and initiatives

5. Coach Code of Conduct

Coaches must:

- Place the safety and wellbeing of all players first
- Treat all players fairly and equitably
- Encourage skill development and teamwork
- Promote positive behaviour and club values
- Comply with child safety and Working With Children requirements
- Communicate professionally with players, parents, and officials
- Follow club, AFL Victoria, and Netball Victoria policies at all times

6. Officials & Volunteers Code of Conduct

Officials and volunteers must:

- Perform their roles fairly, responsibly, and impartially
- Support a safe and inclusive environment
- Maintain confidentiality where required
- Communicate respectfully with all participants
- Declare and manage conflicts of interest
- Uphold club policies and decisions

7. Parents & Spectators

Parents and spectators must:

- Respect the decisions of umpires, referees, and officials
- Use appropriate language and behaviour
- Support all players positively
- Not engage in sideline coaching, criticism, or aggressive behaviour
- Put the teams interests first

8. Social Media & Online Conduct

Members must:

- Use social media responsibly and refrain from sharing photos of other children as per child safe standards
- Not post or share offensive, discriminatory, abusive, or defamatory content
- Not publicly criticise umpires, officials, players, or club representatives
- Ensure online behaviour reflects the values of Tarwin Football Netball Club, AFL Victoria, and Netball Victoria

9. Disputes & Complaints Resolution

9.1 Principles

TFNC is committed to resolving disputes:

- Fairly, promptly, and respectfully
- Confidentially where appropriate
- In line with AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria Member Protection frameworks

9.2 Resolution Process

Step 1 – Informal Resolution:

- Parties should attempt to resolve the matter respectfully and privately.

Step 2 – Report to Relevant Coordinator:

- Senior Football Coordinator – senior football matters
- Junior Football Coordinator – junior football matters
- Senior Netball Coordinator – senior netball matters
- Junior Netball Coordinator – junior netball matters

Step 3 – Wellbeing Support:

- For welfare, safety, or serious conduct concerns, the Club Wellbeing Officer may be engaged.

Step 4 – Executive Review:

- Serious or unresolved matters will be referred to the Club President and Club Secretary for formal review.

Step 5 – Formal Outcome:

Possible outcomes may include:

- Mediation between parties
- Behavioural expectations or warnings
- Education or support measures
- Suspension or disciplinary action
- Referral to AFL Victoria or Netball Victoria or other authorities

9.3 Serious Matters

Matters involving:

- Child safety concerns
- Abuse, harassment, discrimination
- Threatening, violent, or criminal behaviour

Must be reported immediately to the Club President, Club Secretary, or Club Wellbeing Officer, and may be escalated to the relevant governing body.

10. Breaches of the Code

Non-compliance may result in:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Suspension from training, matches, or roles
- Removal from coaching, official, or volunteer positions
- Termination of club membership

11. Acknowledgement

All players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and spectators are expected to read, understand, and comply with this Code as a condition of participation at Tarwin Football Netball Club.