

Brentford Penguins - Parental code of conduct

The Planet Penguin Football Foundation is committed to fostering a safe, fun, and inclusive environment for players with Down's syndrome. As parents, your involvement and cooperation are crucial to creating a supportive community that benefits everyone involved. This Parental Code of Conduct for the Brentford Penguins outlines expectations to ensure a positive experience for players, families, and coaches.

1. Active Participation and Engagement

Encouragement: Cheer on all players, not just your own child, to foster team spirit and camaraderie. Celebrate efforts, milestones, and achievements, no matter how big or small.

Hands-On Support: Parents are encouraged to join in training sessions where appropriate, helping players engage with drills and providing additional support. This may include assisting with activities or guiding your child through exercises.

Positive Reinforcement: Use praise and encouragement to boost confidence. Offer positive feedback to your child and their teammates, reinforcing the values of teamwork and perseverance.

2. Behavioural Responsibilities

Setting a Good Example: Model respectful behaviour, showing patience, empathy, and sportsmanship in your interactions with coaches, children, and other parents.

Proactive Role: Parents are responsible for managing their child's behaviour during training sessions, games, and events. If a child becomes overly disruptive, please step in promptly to help the child regain focus or take a brief break if necessary.

Calm Communication: If there are behavioural issues or challenges, please communicate calmly with the coaches. This collaborative approach will ensure that everyone can focus on creating a positive environment.

3. Respect for Coaches and Volunteers

Support the Coaching Team: Coaches and volunteers dedicate their time and energy to support your children. Please respect their guidance and encourage your child to listen and follow instructions.

Feedback Channels: If you have suggestions or concerns about training activities or the program, please address them in an appropriate manner outside of training times. Respect the decisions of the coaching staff regarding the structure and content of sessions.

4. Inclusive and Respectful Language

Mindful Communication: Use respectful language that encourages inclusivity, kindness, and understanding. Refrain from language that might discourage or hurt other children, parents, or staff.

Empowering Statements: Reinforce that every child is capable of achieving progress. Avoid negative comparisons or critiques that could impact self-esteem.

5. Safety and Welfare

Supervision: Ensure that your child arrives on time and is appropriately dressed for the weather and activity. Be present during sessions to supervise and support your child when necessary.

Health and Safety Guidelines: Adhere to all health and safety guidelines outlined by the Planet Penguin Football Foundation. Inform staff of any health concerns, allergies, or conditions that might require special attention.

Emergency Contact: Make sure the foundation has your up-to-date emergency contact information in case you are needed for any reason.

6. Commitment to Inclusivity and Fair Play

Model Fair Play: Show respect for all participants and promote fairness, integrity, and teamwork. Encourage your child to play by the rules and respect officials' decisions.

Anti-Bullying Stance: Zero tolerance for bullying, discrimination, or exclusion. If any incidents arise, parents are expected to work with staff to address them constructively and supportively.

7. Embrace the Spirit of Planet Penguin

Enjoyment Above All: Remember that the primary goal of the Planet Penguin Football Foundation is to ensure children enjoy their time, make friends, and learn valuable skills in a positive, fun setting.

Thank you for supporting the Planet Penguin Football Foundation. By adhering to this Code of Conduct, you are helping create a joyful, respectful, and inclusive environment where all players can thrive.

Approved by the PPF Trustees: May 2023. Reviewed Oct 2024.