

## **SOUTHS JUNIOR OZTAG**



## **CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY**

# **Player code of conduct**

1. Enjoy yourself
2. Always be a good sport
3. Take every opportunity to work hard, show maximum effort at training and the tournament.
4. Treat your teammates as you want to be treated
5. Always control your behaviour, on and off the field. Violence whether verbal, mental, or physical and bad language is not acceptable.
6. Co-operate with and respect the game officials. Arguing with a referee at the tournament will only negatively impact yourself and your team.
7. Be attentive and listen to your coach, try to always improve your skills.
8. Do not behave in any manner that may endanger other players.
9. Appropriately raise any issues or incidents before the tournament with your coach and manager. If you feel that these issues cannot be resolved, please contact Leah Bell from Souths Junior Oztag who will work to resolve the issue.

Any incident that occurs during State Cup need to be reported to Leah Bell immediately.

Reporting an issue or raising a complaint will not affect your position on any representative team in the future. Our job is to make you feel safe, improve your skills, and ensure you have fun.

10. Players are reminded that expressing their personal views on social media should not in any way negatively impact the club. Players are not permitted to provide media content to any external agencies without approval of the club. Adhere to appropriate social media requirements. Examples of conduct that will not be tolerated include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to an environment based on race, sex, disability, religion or any other status protected by law or company policy.
11. In Coffs Harbour or Sydney, players are to abide by all the rules set forth by the accommodating facility. Any indiscretions, letters of complaint or ejection will result in suspension.
12. Training plays a crucial role in all representative teams. This improves not only your skills but helps you improve and work together with your team mates. Continuously missing sessions has a negative impact on you and your team.  
All players are to attend training sessions set forth by the coach. Any player that is continuously missing training due to reasons that are not deemed legitimate, will result in your removal from the team.

# **Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct**

1. Reduce the emphasis on winning at all costs.
2. Reinforce the view that an honest effort is as important as victory, disappointment is understandable but indicates more hard work is required.
3. Encourage children to always play by the rules.
4. Desist from criticising any child in front of other players and parents. Reserve constructive criticism for private moments.
5. Accept the referee's decision as being fair and made to the best of their ability and experience. Do not publicly voice your views or raise issues of disagreement at any time. Doing this will only negatively impact the players on the field.
6. Applaud both teams for good play.
7. Show respect for your team's opponents as without them, there would not be a game.
8. Condemn violence in any form directed at, or perpetrated by spectators, coaches or players.
9. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, intimidating players, coaches or officials.
10. Set a good example by your own conduct, behaviour and appearance.
11. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
12. Avoid the use of derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment.
13. You are responsible for the behaviours of your family and friends.
13. Parents and spectators are reminded that expressing their personal views on social media should not in any way negatively impact the club. Players are not permitted to provide media content to any external agencies without approval of the club. Adhere to appropriate social media requirements. Examples of conduct that will not be tolerated include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to an environment based on race, sex, disability, religion or any other status protected by law or company policy.
14. Training plays a crucial role in all representative teams. This improves not only your child's skills but helps them improve and work together with their team mates. Continuously missing sessions has a negative impact on your child and their team.  
All players are to attend training sessions set forth by the coach. Any player that is continuously missing training due to reasons that are not deemed legitimate, will result in your child's removal from the team.
15. In Coffs Harbour or Sydney, players are to abide by all the rules set forth by the accommodating facility. Any indiscretions, letters of complaint or ejection will result in suspension.

# **Parent Training Policy**

1. Parents are welcome to watch their children train, but you are there as a spectator, nothing more.
2. Should a parent interfere, distract, or challenge a coach's instructions during training to any member of the playing group you will be instructed to immediately remove yourself and wait in your car.
3. Any parent who has a problem, concern or grievance should privately approach the coach or team manager. If a satisfactory outcome cannot be achieved, they should then contact Leah Bell.
4. Any parent who breaches this policy will be given a written warning.
5. All players are to attend training sessions set forth by the coach. If you know your child will not be able to attend most of the sessions set forth by the coach, your child will need to step down from the starting team. This includes planned holidays over the Christmas Period. Please refer to the Planned Holidays section of this document.

If your child continuously misses training sessions, then they will be removed from the team.

# **Parent Duty Statement**

1. Ensure that players attend training sessions.
2. Ensure that players arrive 15mins before training sessions and an hour (or a time set by the coach) for tournament games.
3. If the parent is not attending a training session or the tournament games, ensure that players are picked up promptly at the finishing time. All players should be accompanied to the tournament. If a player is to be dropped off the parent should arrange for another parent (not the coach) to be responsible for their child.
4. We strongly recommend that each player bring a full water bottle to every training session and games. This will allow adequate re-hydration that is necessary during exercise.
5. Where a child has an existing medical condition, it is important that the coach/manager be notified. It is important that the coach has no responsibility for managing or monitoring any medical condition. In such a case, we request that parents attend training sessions and games with their child.
6. Please notify the manager if your child will not be attending a training session. Please give as much notice as possible. The integrity and structure of the training session is compromised because of failure to notify the coaching staff.
7. Any parent who has a problem, concern or grievance should privately approach the coach or team manager. If a satisfactory outcome cannot be achieved, they should then contact Leah Bell.
8. If your child is injured after selection, Leah Bell needs to be notified as soon as possible with a detailed report of the injury and the time frame that your child will be unable to train. Please refer to player injury section of this document.

## 9. SUPPORT YOUR TEAM!

# **COACH CODE OF CONDUCT**

As the coach of players, they are role models and it is expected that their behaviour is beyond reproach, as outlined below (but not limited to):

1. Bad language or violent behaviour is inexcusable.
2. Good sportsmanship at the conclusion of the game by shaking the opposition coach's hand.
3. Managing the behaviour of all members of the team (players, managers, and assistant coaches during the tournament).
4. Directing hostile or negative comments to the opposing coaches or players is unacceptable.
5. They must abide by the spirit as well as Australian Otago's laws of the game.
6. It is not acceptable to consistently intimidate the referee to make favourable calls.
7. They must accept the referee's decision as being fair and made to the best of their ability and experience.
8. It is not acceptable to make indirect comments towards referees that apportion blame or incompetence.
9. It is inappropriate for coaches to enlist or incite the crowd against the referees.
10. If you feel you need to approach the referee director or tournament director at State Cup, this is to be done in a respectable and calm manner. All incidents of this nature need to be addressed with Leah Bell.
11. Coaches are reminded that expressing their personal views on social media should not in any way negatively impact the club. Players are not permitted to provide media content to any external agencies without approval of the club. Adhere to appropriate social media requirements. Examples of conduct that will not be tolerated include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to an environment based on race, sex, disability, religion or any other status protected by law or company policy.
12. If one of your players is injured after selection, Leah Bell needs to be notified as soon as possible with a detailed report of the injury and the time that player will be unable to train. Please refer to player injury section of this document.

# **COACH DUTY STATEMENT**

1. They will be responsible for conducting no more than (2) weekly training sessions of no more than 1.5 hours. If unavailable, their assistant coach or trainer will step in to cover the session.

2. They are responsible for the safety of their players. If a training session is scheduled on a day that is over 35 degrees, please move the session to either a cooler part of the day (morning or late afternoon), the beach, or reschedule the session.
3. They are responsible for coaching the players at the tournament.
4. They are selected to have the necessary knowledge to teach and develop individual Oztag fundamentals appropriate to the age of the team.
5. Developing sportsmanship, team qualities and self confidence is an important part of youth sport. As a coach, they will endeavour to develop these attributes and positively encourage all players.
6. Assist team manager as needed.
7. They have a valid working with children check.
8. Report any player injuries or continuous no shows to Leah Bell in a timely manner.
9. Appropriately raise any issues related to your team with either the parent or team manager. Any issues that cannot be resolved will be escalated to Leah Bell.
10. Notify managers and trainers of any issues related to player safety or welfare including any incidents that may occur during training or the tournament.
11. Be familiar with the protection and safety process outlined in the Australian Oztag Policies.

## **COACH GUIDELINES**

Coaches will:

1. Stress to players that success is related to commitment and effort, not to winning every game. Players need to know that if they strive to do their best, they are never considered to be “losers”.
2. Not to take for granted the efforts of the player’s and immediately reinforce their efforts before good results. Acknowledgement of players efforts will provide positive reinforcement for their hard work and determination.
3. Reassure the players when they make mistakes. Corrective instruction will be given in an encouraging manner. Tone of voice, words (harsh, demeaning, sarcastic) or physical actions to punish a player’s mistake will not be accepted.
4. Coaches will give all players equal game time. No child should play less than 40% of each game, unless that player is unable to play, or this has been discussed with the player and parent before the tournament.

## **PLAYER INJURIES**

All injuries that occur after selection need to be reported to Leah Bell and your coach. The association will need a detailed report from your doctor within 2 weeks of your injury. This includes:

- 1- The extent of your child's injury
- 2- The healing time of your child's injury
- 3- If your doctor has confidence that your child will be cleared to play in the tournament in February.

A decision will then be made by Souths Junior Oztag, on whether your child will be replaced or allowed to play in the tournament.

In the event the committee decides that the player is deemed unfit for the tournament, they will be removed from the starting team to a shadow position.

You will be refunded your gear and registration fees.

Any injury that is not reported to Leah Bell may result in suspension from the tournament.

## **PLANNED HOLIDAYS**

We understand that the 6 week Christmas holidays is a time for families to go away together. Most coaches also plan to go away during this time.

Most coaches give a two week grace period over Christmas and New Year.

If you have a planned holiday that is 4 weeks or longer during December-February, your coach needs to be notified asap.

A decision will then be made by Souths Junior Oztag on whether your child will be replaced or allowed to play in the tournament.

In the event the committee decides that it is in the best interest of the team to replace your child due to the amount of sessions missed, they will be removed from the starting team to a shadow position.

You will be refunded your gear and registration fee (if applicable).

## **TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES**

All parents, players, spectators, coaches and managers are to adhere to the rules set forth by Australian Oztag, the tournament director and the accommodating facility (where applicable).

**Any indiscretions, letters of complaint, or ejections will result in suspension.**

You are representing our association, and we are responsible for the conduct of our Souths community. Breaches to any of the above will result in penalties, including but not limited to:

- ✱ Suspension of a player, parent or official from 2026-27 Souths Junior Oztag Summer Competition and following years' competition 2027-28.

- ✖ Suspension of a player, parent or official for the following Junior Nationals (2026) and following years Junior State Cup (2027)
- ✖ These penalties are in addition to any penalty which may be imposed by NSW Oztag or Australian Oztag.

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Name and Signature of Player/ or Official	Date
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Name and Signature of Parent/ or Witness	Date
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