



ALBURY WODONGA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION Inc
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www.awfa.asn.au

April 17, 2024

Dear Club President and Secretary,

It has come to our attention that the recent conduct within AWFA has reached an unacceptable level. The excessive number of cautions issued and, most notably, the abandonment of a recent game due to poor player behaviour are clear indicators of a serious problem that needs immediate attention.

As a result, **AWFA is now mandating that all clubs submit a comprehensive action plan outlining measures to address behavioural issues within your respective teams. This action plan is due no later than May 1st, 2024.**

The gravity of this situation cannot be overstated. As evidence of the severity of this issue, 160 yellow cards and 20 red cards have been issued within the first 5 rounds, noting that round 3 was a general bye. Such conduct not only tarnishes the reputation of our association but also poses a significant risk to the safety and integrity of the game.

There will be zero tolerance from the Executive Committee towards any further transgressions. Failure to promptly address these behavioural issues and present a satisfactory action plan will result in your club being placed on notice.

Attached to this email, you will find all relevant code of conduct forms available on our website. It is imperative that these documents are thoroughly reviewed and incorporated into your action plans. Also included below is a link to a website offering courses addressing a variety of issues both on and off the field.

[Catalogue Entries \(sportintegrity.gov.au\)](https://sportintegrity.gov.au)

Furthermore, we expect to see tangible improvements in behaviour this upcoming weekend. The conduct of all players and officials will be closely monitored, and any deviation from expected standards will not be tolerated.

Should your club fail to demonstrate sufficient progress in addressing these concerns, you will be required to appear before the EC to provide a formal explanation.

We urge you to take this matter with the utmost seriousness and to collaborate diligently in implementing measures to rectify these behavioural issues. The future of our association depends on the collective efforts of all clubs to uphold the values of respect, sportsmanship, and fair play.

We would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the rules and regulations of the Albury Wodonga Football Association.

5.31 TEAM MISCONDUCT

5.31.1 EACH CLUB MUST ENSURE THAT ITS PARTICIPANTS DO NOT ENGAGE IN TEAM MISCONDUCT.

5.31.2 TEAM MISCONDUCT IN RELATION TO A CLUB IS WHERE:

- a. five (5) of its Participants are cautioned or expelled during a Match;
- b. three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a Match;
- c. its Participants collectively show dissent towards a Match Official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a Match Official to make or alter a decision;
or
- d. its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

5.31.3 AWFA MAY SANCTION A CLUB WHOSE PARTICIPANTS ENGAGE IN TEAM MISCONDUCT.

*Please note this applies to all teams affiliated with the club.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this issue. We're eagerly looking forward to the rest of the 2024 season, characterized by a commitment to respect and fair play. Please feel to reach out at any time for further discussion if you feel necessary.

Best regards,

Mark Leman
AWFA President
0407 267 736

