



DONCASTER BASEBALL CLUB

CODE OF CONDUCT

DONCASTER DRAGONS | GREEN AND GOLD | FOUNDED 1974

Our standard

Represent the Dragons with respect. Compete fairly. Protect the safety of others.
Leave the Club stronger than you found it.



1. Purpose

Doncaster Baseball Club is a community built on respect, teamwork, development and pride in the game. This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected from everyone connected with the Club, including players, coaches, parents, carers, spectators, officials, volunteers, administrators and members.

The aim of this document is to help every person understand the role they play in protecting the Club's culture. Baseball is at its best when people feel safe, included, supported and able to enjoy the game. Every interaction at training, on game day, online and at Club functions contributes to the reputation of Doncaster Baseball Club.

This Code is designed to sit alongside the policies and codes of conduct published by Baseball Australia, Baseball Victoria, relevant associations and the Club. Where those standards apply, Club members and visitors are expected to follow them.

2. Scope

This Code applies to conduct connected with Doncaster Baseball Club activities. It covers behaviour at training, games, tournaments, Club events, meetings, travel, online communication and any setting where a person is representing or connected with the Club.

This Code applies to	Examples of covered settings
Players, coaches and team officials	Training, games, team selection, dugouts, warm-ups and post-game interactions
Parents, carers and spectators	Sidelines, social areas, away venues, online discussions and communication with volunteers
Volunteers, administrators and committee members	Club operations, events, registrations, complaints handling and member communication
Officials and visiting participants	Any interaction with Doncaster Baseball Club members, facilities or events

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3. Our Club Standard

Everyone connected with Doncaster Baseball Club is expected to support a positive, family-orientated and inclusive environment. This means treating people with dignity, using respectful language and supporting fair play, whether the Club wins, loses or faces difficult moments.

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Standard	What it looks like in practice
Respect	Listening, speaking appropriately, accepting decisions and treating people fairly
Inclusion	Welcoming people of all backgrounds, abilities and levels of experience
Safety	Prioritising wellbeing, following reasonable directions and using equipment properly
Fair play	Competing hard without intimidation, abuse, cheating or unsporting behaviour
Accountability	Taking responsibility, addressing issues early and supporting Club processes

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4. Expected Behaviour for Everyone

All players, coaches, parents, carers, spectators, officials, volunteers, administrators and members are expected to uphold the following standards.

People should respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, ability, cultural background, religion or experience in the game. Everyone should use language and behaviour that supports a safe and welcoming environment.

Club members and visitors are expected to promote the positive aspects of baseball, including effort, learning, teamwork and fair play. Umpires, coaches, scorers, volunteers and officials should be treated respectfully, even when decisions are disappointing or disputed. Concerns should be raised through the appropriate team or Club channels rather than through public confrontation.

No person should ridicule, threaten, harass, bully, sledge or abuse another person. Offensive gestures, discriminatory language, intimidation and aggressive conduct have no place at Doncaster Baseball Club. This expectation applies equally in person, in writing and online.

All people are expected to follow Club policies and reasonable directions relating to safety, child safeguarding, smoke-free areas, alcohol management, facilities, equipment and venue requirements. Alcohol should be consumed responsibly where permitted and should never compromise safety, judgement or the Club's reputation.

5. Coaches and Team Officials

Coaches and team officials have a significant influence on the culture of the Club. They are expected to lead by example, place participant wellbeing ahead of results and create an environment where players can improve, contribute and enjoy the game.

Coaches and team officials are expected to	Why it matters
Act as positive role models at training, games and Club events	Players learn from the behaviour they see consistently
Support players of all skill levels	Development and enjoyment are central to long-term participation
Set expectations clearly and communicate respectfully	Clear communication reduces confusion and builds trust
Prioritise safety, age-appropriate activity and player welfare	Good coaching protects participants and supports confidence
Respect umpires, opposition teams, families and volunteers	Leadership sets the tone for the whole team environment
Maintain appropriate boundaries with participants	Professional relationships help protect players and coaches
Keep learning and maintain relevant qualifications where required	Coaching standards improve when coaches stay informed

Coaches should not condone unsafe play, rule violations, discrimination, bullying, prohibited substances or behaviour that undermines the reputation of the Club. Selection, playing time and feedback should be handled fairly, constructively and with particular care in junior and development environments.

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6. Players

Players represent themselves, their team and Doncaster Baseball Club every time they take the field. They are expected to compete with effort and pride while respecting the game, the opposition and officials.

Players are expected to play by the rules, accept umpire decisions and work with coaches, teammates and team officials. If a player disagrees with a decision, they should raise it through the captain, coach or manager at an appropriate time.

Players should encourage teammates, acknowledge good play from either side and show modesty in victory and grace in defeat. They should arrive ready to train or play, use equipment safely and avoid behaviour that may place themselves or others at risk.

Players should not abuse, sledge, bully, intimidate or deliberately distract opponents, officials, teammates or spectators. They should not arrive intoxicated, consume alcohol during junior fixtures or engage in behaviour that could damage the reputation of the Club.

7. Parents, Carers and Spectators

Parents, carers and spectators play an important role in creating a positive game-day environment. Support from the sidelines should help participants enjoy baseball, learn the game and feel proud to represent their team.

Parents, carers and spectators are expected to encourage effort, teamwork and fair play rather than focusing only on scores or results. They should applaud good play by both teams, respect the efforts of volunteers and avoid coaching from the sidelines where it conflicts with team direction.

Children and young people learn from the conduct they see around them. Adults are expected to model calm, respectful behaviour toward umpires, coaches, players and other spectators. Public criticism, ridicule and aggressive comments can affect confidence and enjoyment, and should be replaced with positive support.

Parents, carers and spectators should not enter the field of play unless invited by an official, throw items, use offensive language, harass others, encourage violence or bring prohibited substances into a venue. Where alcohol is available, it should be consumed responsibly and in line with venue and Club requirements.

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8. Volunteers, Administrators and Committee Members

Volunteers, administrators and committee members help create the conditions for the Club to operate well. They are expected to act with fairness, care and respect while supporting the long-term interests of Doncaster Baseball Club.

Administrators should provide opportunities for participation across playing, coaching, scoring, umpiring, volunteering, leadership and committee roles. Decisions should be made in good faith, communicated clearly and guided by the Club's policies, association requirements and the best interests of members.

Volunteers and administrators should promote fair play, safe participation, responsible alcohol management, appropriate supervision and respectful conduct. They should also help coaches, officials, players and families understand the standards expected at the Club.

9. Officials and Umpires

Officials and umpires are essential to the game. Doncaster Baseball Club expects all members and visitors to treat officials with respect, regardless of experience level or the difficulty of a decision.

Questions or concerns about officiating should be handled calmly, at the right time and through the appropriate team or Club pathway. Abuse of officials, repeated dissent, intimidation and public confrontation are not acceptable Club behaviours.

10. Online Conduct and Club Communication

The same standards that apply at the ground also apply online. Social media, messaging platforms and email should be used in a way that protects players, families, volunteers and the reputation of Doncaster Baseball Club.

Online communication should be respectful, accurate and appropriate for the audience. Members should not post or share content that humiliates, targets, discriminates against or misrepresents another person, team, official, association or club. Photos or videos involving children and young people should be handled with care and in line with Club and safeguarding expectations.

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11. Raising Concerns

Concerns should be raised early, respectfully and through the most appropriate pathway. In many cases, a calm conversation with a coach, team manager or Club representative can resolve an issue before it becomes more serious.

Where a concern involves safety, child safeguarding, discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, serious misconduct or repeated breaches of this Code, it should be referred to the appropriate Club representative or committee member for review. The Club should handle concerns fairly, promptly and with appropriate confidentiality.

Type of concern	Suggested pathway
Team communication or role clarity	Coach or team manager
Game-day behaviour or spectator conduct	Team manager, coach or Club official
Safety, welfare or safeguarding concern	Club committee, welfare officer or designated Club contact
Serious misconduct or repeated breach	Club committee or formal Club process

12. Breaches of the Code

When behaviour falls short of this Code, the Club may respond in a way that is fair, proportionate and focused on protecting the community. The response may include a conversation, reminder of expectations, apology, mediation, written warning, removal from an activity, suspension from Club privileges, referral to an association or any other action available under Club rules and applicable policies.

The Club's response will depend on the seriousness of the conduct, the circumstances, the impact on others and whether the behaviour has happened before. Serious matters, including violence, threats, discrimination, child safety concerns, unlawful conduct or significant abuse of officials, may be escalated immediately.

13. Commitment

By participating in Doncaster Baseball Club activities, members and visitors support the standards set out in this Code. The Club asks every person to help build a culture where people feel welcome, volunteers feel respected and players can enjoy baseball in a safe, fair and positive environment.

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