# South Australian Amateur Soccer League Inc.

# Club Referee Code of Conduct

**SAASL Club Referee Code of Conduct Overview**

The South Australian Amateur Soccer League (SAASL) is committed to ensuring that all participants uphold the integrity and fairness of the game. Club Referees play a crucial role in maintaining the spirit of soccer, and their involvement is conditional upon adherence to this Club Referee Code of Conduct.

**Key Expectations**

All Club Referees must conduct themselves professionally and ensure that their behaviour aligns with SAASL's standards. Violations of this Code of Conduct, including but not limited to the following, will result in disciplinary action:

- Disrespecting players, coaches, officials, or spectators.
- Failing to apply the Laws of the Game fairly and consistently.
- Engaging in verbal or physical abuse.
- Using offensive language, racial or religious remarks.
- Displaying bias or conflict of interest.

**COMMITMENT TO THIS CODE OF CONDUCT**

**As a Club Referee, I WILL:**

- Understand and exercise the duties of a Club Referee to the best of my ability.
- Abide by the SAASL Club Referee Code of Conduct.
- Apply the Laws of the Game fairly, consistently, and impartially.
- Support and promote the principles of Fair Play and Fair Conduct.
- Act respectfully towards all players, club officials, spectators, and SAASL officials.
- Conduct myself in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of my club, SAASL and soccer in general.
- Ensure that the safety and welfare of players remains a top priority.
- Wear the SAASL Referee shirt when officiating in any fixture.
- Undertake appropriate training to fulfill my duties effectively.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every person, regardless of gender, ability, race, religion, or cultural background.

- Act honestly and transparently, ensuring that my role as a Referee is never misrepresented for personal gain.
- Maintain proper records and submit all required details and reports as required by the League.
- Only act as a Club Referee for one Club at any time during the season unless approved by the League.

**As a Club Referee, I WILL NOT:**

- Engage in, or condone, offensive language, verbal abuse, or aggressive behaviour.
- Engage in or condone violent conduct, sexual harassment, racial abuse, or discrimination in any form.
- Allow external factors (team preferences, personal bias, intimidation) to influence my decisions.
- Misrepresent my involvement in the Club Referee Program to gain an advantage.
- Engage in conduct that brings SAASL or soccer into disrepute.

**UNDERSTANDING AND COMPLIANCE**

By participating as a Club Referee in SAASL competitions, I acknowledge that:

- I must abide by this Code of Conduct at all times.
- Any breach of this Code may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to:
    - A requirement to apologise to affected parties.
    - Formal warnings or mandatory training.
    - Suspension or de-registration as a Club Referee.
    - Additional sanctions imposed by SAASL on my Club.
    - Being required to appear before the SAASL Disciplinary Committee.

I acknowledge my responsibility as a Club Referee and agree to uphold the values of fairness, integrity, and respect at all times.

**It is the Club's responsibility to ensure that all Club Referees receive**

**and comply with this Code of Conduct**