

## **DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES**

#### **PURPOSE:**

These Disciplinary Policy & Procedures are to be considered in conjunction with the SUFC Code of Conducts.

The purpose of this document is to describe the approach SUFC will take to deal with any persons associated with the club (e.g. club official, coach, team manager, parent, player or supporter), whose on or off the field behavior breaches the clubs Code of Conducts and or brings the club into disrepute.

All players, coaches, managers and supporters should familiarize themselves with this policy.

The SUFC Discipline Policy addresses verbal or physical abuse, assault, harassment, or threatening behavior by anyone involved in the league in any capacity.

Any participant (including, but not limited to, parents/guardians, players, coaches, board members, volunteers, and spectators) who is abusive (verbally or physically) toward any person (including, but not limited to, opposing teams, parents/guardians, coaches, referees, players, and spectators) will face disciplinary actions as defined below, but not limited to. These sanctions are above and beyond any in-game suspension given by a referee or sanctions handed down by the respective league(s) in which SUFC is affiliated with. Sanctions may be enforced into the following season depending on the number of games remaining in the season and the severity of the offense.

## **DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES (formal, on or off the field):**

Where a complaint (written or verbal) is received about a person associated with SUFC, the complaint will be reviewed and investigated by the SUFC Committee. If the person, against which the complaint has been made, is found to be in breach of the SUFC Codes of Conduct

or is found to have brought the club into disrepute, one or more of the following penalties will be applied, depending on the severity of the complaint:

- 1. Letter of warning after which any further breaches will incur additional penalties.
- 2. Notification that the person has been stood down for a period of time or for the remainder of the season for failing to abide by the club's Codes of Conduct. Supporters or parents in breach may be instructed not to step foot on club grounds for a period of time or for the remainder of the season.
- Notification that the person's registration will not automatically be accepted for the following season and will be subject to review to determine if the player is of proper character to represent SUFC.
  - \*\* Any communications relating to SUFC events, organization or management via emails (or other electronic communications (team app or facebook), telephone calls, or face-to-face communications are subject to interpretation for disciplinary action as described above. Our disciplinary rules govern all communications relating to our club. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for sending expletive-ridden emails, name calling or aggressive confrontations. We should be holding ourselves to the highest level of respect and shall be governed by the rules set forth.

# INAPPROPRIATE DEALINGS WITH COACH/OFFICIAL: Training and Playing

Coaches (junior and senior teams) have the authority to exclude players from training activities in response to inappropriate behavior. Coaches may also remove players from the field of play during games in response to inappropriate behavior from the player or the player's parent. In addition, coaches may 'bench' players when they consistently: miss training; are late for training; or are late for matches.

Players who respond inappropriately to the instructions of a coach or club official during a game or at training in such a manner as they breach the club's Codes of Conduct - may be subject to penalties imposed by SUFC. In such case, the responsible coach or official may wish to make a written complaint and request action be taken against the player concerned. The complaint must be made in writing to the President within seven (7) days of the incident.

#### RIGHT OF APPEAL

To ensure that that SUFC maintains a fair, balanced and reasonable position in all disciplinary matters any disciplinary penalty imposed will be open to an appeal process. This process is outlined in the Club's Constitution.

### **SANCTIONS:**

#### Players (All)

- Player Profanity: A player guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against a referee, another player, coach, spectator shall receive removal from training/ and or the match.
- Player Threats: A player guilty of making threatening gestures against a referee, another player, coach, spectator, or any SUFC official shall receive a minimum one (1) week suspension. Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including practices.
- Player Fighting: A player guilty of fighting before, during, or after a game shall receive a minimum two (2) week suspension. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including practices.

#### Junior Players (training)

- Not following instructions of the coach or team manager
  - 1st offence Verbal warning
  - 2nd offence: sit out and do stretches for 10 minutes
  - 3rd offence, you sit out for the rest of training.

All players on return are to apologise to the coach/playing group for their behaviour.

#### **Coaches/Trainers/Managers**

Misconduct of Coaches: Coaches or team officials who make threatening gestures, physical contact, or use threatening language to other players, coaches, referees or any association officials may be disciplined according to the following schedule:

- First Time: Minimum two (2) week suspension. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including training.
- Second Time: Minimum of four (4) week suspension. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including training.
- Third Time: The offender will be suspended for a minimum of one year. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including training.

#### **Spectators**

Misconduct of Spectators: During the duration of games and training, spectators are expected to be situated on the opposite side of the field from the coaches and players, and are not permitted to approach the coaches, referees, other parents and/or players unless directed by a coach or official for medical reasons. Under no circumstances should anyone other than a player or coach be on the field of play during a game or practice. Any individual, outside players and coaches, who enters the field of play during game or training, or any individual who makes threatening gestures, physical contact or uses threatening language to players (including their own child), coaches, referees, other spectators or SUFC officials shall be disciplined according to the following schedule:

- First Time: Minimum two (2) week suspension. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including training. Suspended parents/guardians may drop off and pick up children for matches and training, but may not exit their car.
- Second Time: Minimum of four (4) week suspension. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including training. Suspended parents/guardians may drop off and pick up children for matches and training, but may not exit their car.
- Third Time: The offender will be suspended for a minimum of one (1)
  year. Suspension prohibits attendance at games and sponsored functions including
  practices. Suspended parents/guardians may drop off and pick up children for
  matches and training, but may not exit their car.

All communications not limited to an occurrence at a SUFC event:

Any communications relating to SUFC events, organization or management via emails (or other electronic communications (team app or facebook), telephone calls, or face-to-face communications are subject to interpretation for disciplinary action as described above. Our disciplinary rules govern all communications relating to our club. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for sending expletive-ridden emails, name calling or aggressive

confrontations. We should be holding ourselves to the highest level of respect and shall be governed by the rules set forth.