

## **Te Horo School Sport CODE OF CONDUCT**

Every week hundreds and thousands of kids and adults around New Zealand enjoy their sport and recreation in a fun and supportive environment. At Te Horo School this is certainly the case, there are many children who play sport for our school.

We set high standards of behaviour on and off the field, and we're all about showing respect for others and acting responsibly. The following **CODE of CONDUCT** has been developed by Sport New Zealand. They also completed a survey was conducted in 2010 which indicated that 70% of kids who participate in sport dropout between ages 13 & 17. Alarming statistics when we see so many primary school children playing sport. It is vital that we ensure sport is a positive experience for all children.

The research also asked children what they like about sport. This research showed that children are interested in four things when they play sport:

1. **Action** - Children like lots of action, ie lots of running, hitting, catching, shooting, scoring and so on.
2. **Personal involvement** - Children want to be involved in the action, not sitting on the bench or waiting in line for their turn.
3. **Close competition and challenges matching their skills** - Close scores make games exciting and lopsided scores make them boring.
4. **Opportunities to reaffirm their friendships** - This is demonstrated in the way teams are chosen and the strategies children use during games. They often develop long lasting friendships through their participation in sport.

Please take the time to read and discuss the following **CODE of CONDUCT** as a family.

## Coaches

### I will:

- Remember that players participate for enjoyment and winning is only part of the fun
- Never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning
- Be reasonable in my demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same
- Ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities
- Avoid overplaying the talented players and understand that the average players need and deserve equal time
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport including opponents, referees, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators. I will encourage my players to do the same
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background

### I will not:

- Use bad language nor will I harass players, officials, spectators or other coaches

## Parents and Spectators

### **I will:**

- Encourage my child to play within the rules and respect officials' and coaches' decisions
- Teach my child to respect the efforts of their opponents
- Remember that children learn best by example so I will applaud good plays/performances by both my child's team and their opponents
- Give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort
- Inform the coach if my child cannot play and be on time for games and practices
- Thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time to conduct the event for my child
- Help when asked by a coach or official
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

### **I will not:**

- Pressure children in any way – I know that this is their game not mine
- Use bad language, nor will I harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators or ridicule my child's performance

## **Players**

### **I will:**

- Always play by the rules
- Never argue with an official. If I disagree with a decision I will inform the captain or coach during a break or after the competition
- Control my temper. I understand that verbal abuse of officials and other players or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted behaviour in any sport
- Work equally hard for myself and my team
- Be a good sport and applaud all good plays whether they are made by my team or the opposition
- Treat all players in my sport as I like to be treated. I will not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor
- Cooperate with my coach, teammates and opponents
- Turn up for games and practices on time
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- Participate for my own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Thank the opposition and officials at the end of the game

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