



Hednesford AFC - Coaches' Code of Conduct

Implementation Date: 1 August 2025

Next Review Date: 1 August 2026

At Hednesford AFC, our coaches are at the heart of everything we do. You are role models for the players and key to shaping the environment our young people experience each week.

This Code sets out what we expect from every coach and volunteer who works with our players. By taking on a coaching role at the club, you agree to follow this code and uphold the standards that make Hednesford AFC special.

On and off the field, I will:

- Set a positive example for the children and young people I coach.
- Respect all involved in the game including referees, opposition players, coaches, and spectators.
- Follow the laws and spirit of the game.
- Promote fair play and high standards of behaviour at all times.
- Respect the referee's decisions and never enter the field of play without permission.
- Never engage in or tolerate abusive, insulting, or offensive language or behaviour.
- Be gracious in both victory and defeat.
- Wear appropriate club kit and present myself professionally.
- Represent Hednesford AFC with pride in everything I do.

When working with players, I will:

- Always prioritise the safety, wellbeing, and enjoyment of every player.
- Deliver fun, inclusive and age-appropriate sessions.
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying or discrimination.
- Support each player to take responsibility for their behaviour and development.
- Use positive, encouraging communication at all times.
- Avoid favouritism and ensure all players are treated fairly.
- Work with others (referees, parents, first aiders, welfare officers) in the best interest of every child.
- Report any concerns I have about a player's wellbeing to the Club Welfare Officer.

I will not:

- Shout at, criticise, or belittle players especially in front of others.
- Put winning above player development or enjoyment.
- Use aggressive or confrontational language with officials, players, parents or spectators.
- Post anything online that could bring the club, my team or a player into disrepute.

If I break this Code, I understand that the club may:

- Ask me to attend a meeting with the Club Committee or Welfare Officer.
- Suspend me temporarily from coaching sessions or matches.
- Refer the issue to the County FA or The FA.
- In serious cases, ask me to step away from my role or remove me from the club entirely.

At Hednesford AFC, we don't just coach football we help shape futures.

Our actions, words and standards matter.

Let's lead by example.

Let's wear the badge the right way.