



Merisham Sports Club

Flood Street, Merisham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6NX
www.merishamsportsclub.com



Parent and Carers Code of Conduct

Applies to;

Parents and Carers of Junior Members (under 18 years of age).

At Merisham Sports Club we feel we have a responsibility to promote the highest standards of behaviour in any game.

As a Club, we wholeheartedly support The FA's Respect programme and ECB Safe Hands policy, ensuring that children have as safe, positive environment in which to play football or cricket – but these codes of conduct would apply to any sport associated with Merisham Sports Club. As spectators to the game you have a key role to play in achieving this.

The time children spend playing sport, is time for them to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills and we need to remember that winning is a fundamental part of the game – but it isn't everything.

With this in mind, we would ask that you observe at all times.

- Remember that children play for fun you must not force your child to take part in any sporting activity.
- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Applaud effort and good play, as well as success.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play.
- Let the coaches do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do.
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition and match officials.
- Always respect the match officials' decisions.
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are all part of learning and you must never punish or belittle a child for making an error.
- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use positive, supportive and appropriate language at all times.
- Remain outside the field of play and within the designated spectators areas (where specified).
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Confirm player availability for fixtures training and events promptly.
- Pay all applicable fees promptly.
- Smoke ONLY in designated areas.
- Adhere to the Club constitution at all times.

If these are not adhered to any or all of the following actions may be taken by the Club, County or National Governing body:



merishamsportsclub.com



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@merishamsports



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- Issued with a verbal warning from the club or league official.
- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer.
- Required to meet with the club committee.
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club.
- Requested by the club not to attend future games.
- Suspended or have club membership removed.
- Obligated to undertake an education course.
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

Merham Sports Club would also ask you, as parents / spectators **not** to engage in any behaviour which may be detrimental to the reputation of the Club. Offensive, inappropriate, insulting or abusive behaviour or language will not be tolerated and this includes any comments made in the public domain or on social media.

We understand the passion for sport, and know that on rare occasions difficult situations can arise, however we would ask you to allow the matter to be dealt with by the team coach, match officials or approach a member of Merham Sports Club Committee or the Club Welfare Officer (details to be found on the website)

Merham Sports Club would also ask that

- You ensure that your child comes along to training sessions and matches on a regular basis and you encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- You make sure that the child is wearing the correct and appropriate kit – for example shin pads and suitable footwear.
- You inform the coach before the match or training session to any injuries or medical factors which may affect the child's ability to play.
- You make sure you keep the club informed of any changes to contact details or any other relevant issues - such as food allergies / medication allergies.
- Dogs are welcome – but we ask that they are kept on a leash at all times during training and games.

Should any issues arise please speak to your team coach in the first instance (in the unlikely event that the issue is regarding a Merham coach please contact a member of the committee). If you are not happy with the outcome, please follow the complaints procedure (see Complaints Procedure in downloads)

