**SPECTATORS CODE**

Remember that children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they miniature professionals.

Applaud good performances and efforts from each team. Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the game’s outcome.

Respect the official’s decisions. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure in order to question the decision and teach the children likewise.

Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivational.

Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.

Show respect for your team’s opponents. Without them there would be no game.

Encouraging players to follow the rules and the official’s decisions.

Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials.

Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.

**COACHES CODE**

Be reasonable in your demands on young player’s time, energy and enthusiasm.

Teach your players that rules of the sport are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break.

Avoid over-playing the talented players. The “just-average” players need and deserve equal time.

Remember that children participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation.

Never ridicule or yell at the children for making mistakes or losing a competition.

Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.

Take into consideration the maturity level of the children, when scheduling and determining the length of practice times and competition.

Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.

Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.

Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and the principles of growth and development of children.

Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.
Woodend
Spectators & Coaches Code