

# ADELAIDE COUGARS NETBALL CLUB



## **POLICY 007:**

### **UMPIRES CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

# Adelaide Cougars Netball Club

## Policy 007 – Umpires Code of Behaviour



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## **1. Introduction:**

The Adelaide Cougars Netball Club (ACNC) recognises the important role of an Umpire as a positive role model for the sport of netball and its athletes. In recognition of this most influential role, ACNC expects its Umpires to act with integrity and respect in all of their dealings with players and their families involved in competition.

Within this context ACNC acknowledges that Umpires are expected to face complex issues that require them to exhibit ethical and appropriate conduct. The ACNC Umpires Code of Behaviour is modelled on the recommendations of Netball SA, Netball Australia and the Australian Sports Commission and is designed to provide a framework for expected behaviour.

## **2. General Code of Behaviour**

As a person required to comply with this Policy, Umpires must meet the following requirements with regard to their conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Netball Australia, Member Organisations or Affiliates.

- 2.1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- 2.2. Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others.
- 2.3. Make a commitment to providing quality service.
- 2.4. Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to Adelaide Cougars Netball Club and Netball Australia's standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- 2.5. Operate within the rules of the sport including national and state guidelines which govern Netball Australia, Member Organisations and Affiliates.
- 2.6. Do not use your involvement with netball to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of Adelaide Cougars Netball Club, Netball Australia, Member Organisations or Affiliates.
- 2.7. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- 2.8. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.



- 2.9. Refrain from any behaviour that may bring Adelaide Cougars Netball Club, Netball Australia, Member Organisations or Affiliates into disrepute.
- 2.10. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.
- 2.11. Show concern and caution towards others who maybe sick or injured.
- 2.12. Be a positive role model.
- 2.13. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of this Code of Behaviour.

### 3. Role of Umpires within ACNC

In addition to the General Code of Behaviour, Umpires must meet the following requirements with regard to their conduct during any activity held by or under the auspices of Netball Australia, Member Organisations or Affiliates in your role as an umpire.

- 3.1. Treat all players with respect at all times.
- 3.2. Accept responsibility for all actions taken. Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring players play within the rules. Reasonable care consists of advising the players of illegal body movements, showing due diligence in detecting infringements and penalising rule breakers.
- 3.3. Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else. Although it is the responsibility of umpires to ensure that the playing conditions are safe, in the end it is the association's decision. If a court supervisor or equivalent is appointed and present at the match they would decide whether the game should commence or continue and deal with any emergencies relating to a safe environment or anticipate any foreseeable dangers and deal with it appropriately. If no such person is present, you should make a decision as to whether the match should commence or continue due to adverse conditions, safe environment or foreseeable dangers.
- 3.4. Be impartial and maintain integrity in relationship with other umpires, players and coaches.
- 3.5. Avoid situations which may lead to a conflict of interest.
- 3.6. Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- 3.7. Value the individual in sport. Ensure the players have the opportunity for discussion with you after the match.



- 3.8. Seek continual self-improvement through study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies. Maintain or improve your current badge level and seek continual improvement.
- 3.9. Encourage inclusiveness and access to all areas of officiating. Aim for excellence based upon results
- 3.10. Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance by maintaining the highest standards of personal conduct and projecting a favourable image of netball and umpiring at all times.
- 3.11. Refrain from any form of personal abuse towards players. This includes verbal, physical and emotional abuse. Be alert to any forms of abuse directed towards the players from other sources while they are playing. (Abide by Adelaide Cougars Netball Club / Netball Australia Member Protection Policy).
- 3.12. Refrain from any form of harassment towards players. Treat all players fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status, and other conditions. (Abide by Adelaide Cougars Netball Club / Netball Australia Member Protection Policy).
- 3.13. Show concern and caution towards ill and injured players. You should enforce the blood rule and apply procedures regarding ill or injured players according to the rule book. Common sense must be applied in all cases.