# DEALING WITH BREACHES OF CODES OF CONDUCT



## **#PlayYourPart**

Creating a united grassroots football environment which delivers football opportunity For All

#### **Guiding Principles for Clubs to deal with breaches of Codes of Conduct**

No matter how well a club is run there is always the possibility of having to deal with complaints and discipline issues at a club. Dealing with issues of poor practice or misconduct from volunteers or parents/spectators can seem somewhat daunting at first however by following a clear process, matters can be dealt with both efficiently and appropriately.

#### **Codes of Conduct**

Ahead of any new season each member of the club should sign up to a Code of Conduct. The club should hold a hard copy or electronic register which can evidence that everyone has read and is committed to adhering to it. Each FA Code of Conduct has a number of sanctions that could be imposed following a breach.

#### **Sanctions**

Where the Committee find that the complaint is upheld/proven there are a number of sanctions available. Sanctions are incorporated into the Respect Codes of Conduct which all members at the club should have signed up to at the beginning of every season. Sanctions could include:

- A formal warning
- Request not to attend future games
- Asked to attend an FA Education Course
- Required to leave the club

### Liaising with Essex County FA

Before starting a process we encourage you to contact Essex County FA to see if any investigation is underway linked to the complaint, if that is the case the club would then need to liaise with the Football Services Department and they may need to put their own process on hold until that has been heard.

Our Football Services and Safeguarding Departments are also on hand to reassure and guide clubs through the process.

If any club would like specific support around a process to follow please contact our Football Services team **www.essexfa.com/about/contact-us** 







