



GFSN Code of Conduct

Purpose

The GFSN is committed to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for everyone involved in our competitions and community. This Code of Conduct applies to all players, coaches, club officials, volunteers, and spectators participating in GFSN activities.

It reflects our commitment to **LGBTQ+ inclusion, anti-discrimination, and support for players of all abilities.**

1. Respect for All

We expect all participants to:

- Treat teammates, opponents, officials, and spectators with **respect and dignity** at all times.
 - Avoid abusive, offensive, or intimidating behaviour — on and off the pitch.
 - Accept the decisions of match officials.
 - Remain respectful toward others, regardless of their team, background, identity, or ability.
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2. Commitment to Inclusion

The GFSN is a proudly LGBTQ+ inclusive organisation. All participants must:

- Promote a welcoming environment for **people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.**
- Never tolerate or engage in homophobic, transphobic, biphobic, racist, sexist, or ableist language or behaviour.
- Speak out against or report discrimination or abuse when it occurs.



3. Support for Diverse Abilities and Experiences

The GFSN values participation, passion, and community, recognizing that LGBTQ+ individuals may face unique challenges and barriers in football. While healthy competition is expected, the ethos of the league should always prioritise inclusion and respect. All players and clubs should:

- Encourage and support players of all abilities, experience levels, and identities, fostering an environment where everyone feels safe and welcome.
- Promote fairness, team spirit, respectful conduct, and respect for diversity, understanding the importance of empathy within competition.
- Focus on enjoyment, personal development, and well-being alongside competitive play, ensuring that the spirit of community remains at the heart of the league.

4. Safeguarding and Well-being

- Ensure the emotional and physical safety of all participants.
- Avoid any behaviour that could be perceived as bullying, harassment, or coercion.
- Report any concerns about welfare or misconduct to the GFSN Committee or safeguarding lead.

5. On and Off the Pitch

The GFSN community extends beyond matchdays. Members are expected to:



- Represent their clubs and the GFSN positively in all spaces, including social media and events.
 - Use social media responsibly and avoid discriminatory or inflammatory content.
 - Contribute to a culture of care, accountability, and mutual respect.
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6. Consequences of Breach

Breaches of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action by the GFSN, including:

- Verbal or written warnings
 - Temporary or permanent suspension from GFSN matches or events
 - Disqualification from competitions in serious or repeated cases
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Final Statement

The GFSN exists to provide a safe, inclusive, and empowering football environment for LGBTQ+ people and allies. Upholding this Code of Conduct is everyone's shared responsibility. Together, we can ensure the GFSN continues to be a respectful, welcoming space for all.