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| **Code of Conduct** |

**Gladstone AFL Mudcrabs, CapricorniaFootball League Inc. (QLD)**

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| **1. Philosophy and Code of Conduct – 2013** |

***The Gladstone AFL Mudcrabs Football Club*** is committed to the ideals, principles and disciplines of AFL Masters as expressed in the attached Philosophy and Code of Conduct.

The Executive Committee of THE GLADSTONE AFL MUDCRABS FOOTBALL CLUBrequires all members, players and supporters to commit to and abide by the Philosophy and Code of Conduct.

All members, players and supporters should take the time to read them carefully and acknowledge their commitment by signing the attached **Members Code of Conduct Form** and returning it to the Club.

The Members Code of Conduct Form must be signed by the member, the President and witness prior to the member being accepted as a member of the Club.

**Umpire penalties for on field offences:** All players are reminded of the Order-Off-Rule that may be imposed by all field umpires

A **Yellow card** penalty being automatic send -off for a period of 10 minutes. **Player** **can be replaced**.

A **Red card** penalty being automatic send-off until the end of the Current Day. **Player** **can be replaced**.

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| **Philosophy of AFL Mudcrabs – 2013** |

All AFL Mudcrab participants should adhere to this philosophy and accept the following guidelines:

1. Egos are to be left at home.

2. We should recognise good performance and applaud the efforts of both teams and umpires.

3. Criticism of other player's performance and ability is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

4. Disputing an umpire's decisions or abuse of any umpire is totally unacceptable and not tolerated.

5. On field and off field fighting, violence or bad language is totally unacceptable and not tolerated.

7. Games Selection Criteria.

We obviously need far more players to get through a season than can take the field at the start of any given match, and whilst every player will be given the chance to play, selection cannot help but be influenced by the following:- paid membership, attendance at training, participation in club activities and duties and willingness to travel to away games.

The above does not mean that players who cannot train or play regularly will not be welcomed and get a game, however they must be prepared to accept and understand our priorities.

8. Not withstanding point 7, every effort will be made to give all players time on the ground.

9. Hospitality to visiting teams is very important. As we partake of other team's hospitality during our travels to away games, all players should recognise the importance of returning the favour.

10. AFL Mudcrabs recognise the importance of involving our families in our activities and will continue to make a conscious effort to do so.

11. New players are always very welcome, but should be made fully aware of the Philosophy and Code of Conduct and adhere to what is required of them as a representative of the club and AFL Mudcrabs.

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| **Code of Conduct – 2013** |

**Introduction**

The Code of Conduct covers both on-field and off-field activities. It covers verbal as well as physical conduct and applies to all executive, members, players, umpires, coaching staff, support staff and supporters. The Code of Conduct is for the benefit of all members, players, spectators, their friends and families.

**Code of Conduct Principles:**

1. The Rules of AFL, AFLQ, Capricornia League and Gladstone Mudcrabs shall be adhered to at all times.

2. The Philosophy of AFL Mudcrabs shall be adhered to at all times.

3. Disputing the Umpire's decision will not be tolerated.

4. Violence, fighting or threatening behaviour at any game or club function will not be tolerated.

5. Swearing, abusive and threatening language at any game or club function will not be tolerated.

6. Racial or religious abuse, vilification or actions that may offend another will not be tolerated.

7. Coaches, members, players and supporters shall respect and abide by directives of the Club administration.

**Procedures for Reporting of Breaches.**

Any person (the complainant) who witnesses a breach of the AFL Mudcrabs Code of Conduct shall report such incident directly to any member of the Club Executive Committee.

Reports of minor indiscretions or incidents may be reported verbally. Incidents of a serious nature can initially be communicated verbally but must be followed up in writing.

**Investigation Procedures.**

Any verbal or written report of a breach of the Code of Conduct shall be heard by the Executive Committee who shall convene a meeting at the earliest possible time in order to investigate the alleged incident.

The complainant may, if desired, remain anonymous to all but the Executive Committee who shall keep the person’s identity confidential.

The Executive Committee will fully investigate all aspects of the reported incident and must consult with all parties involved, all the time maintaining the complainant’s confidentiality if requested.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to impose any or all of the prescribed penalties.

The Executive Committee shall report the outcome of their investigations firstly to the offending party, secondly to the complainant, thirdly to all Club Members and be fully reported in the Minutes of the next Executive Committee Meeting. The opposition club shall also be informed in writing of the action taken.

The Executive Committee have the authority and power to impose any or all of the prescribed penalties on any complainant if the Committee deems the complainant’s report to be frivolous, unjust, spiteful or intended to unfairly injure or discriminate against any person or persons.

**Disciplinary Actions and Prescribed Penalties.**

In all reported cases, the Executive Committee shall counsel the offending person(s) and instruct them in the Philosophy of AFL Mudcrabs and how they should conduct themselves.

* Where the incident is considered to be a minor offence:

The offending person(s) may be cautioned and receive a warning not to re-offend.

The offending person(s) may be required to submit a written apology to the complainant and/or the Gladstone AFL Club

Non-compliance of executive committee directives by offending person(s) will be treated as a significant offence.

A second or subsequent breach of a minor nature will be treated as a significant offence.

* Where the incident is considered to be a significant offence:

The offending person/s or Club may face suspension and /or are to be placed on a bond (a monetary amount deemed suitable by the Executive Committee) - any number of matches may be placed on a (12) twelve month suspended sentence.

The offending person(s) will have their membership suspended for a period determined by the Executive Committee.

The offending person(s) will be suspended from for a period determined by the Executive Committee.

The offending person(s), not being a member of the Club, will be suspended from attending Club games or functions for a period determined by the Executive Committee.

Non-compliance of executive committee directives by offending person(s) will be treated as a serious offence.

A second or subsequent breach of a significant nature will be treated as a serious offence.

* Where the incident is considered to be a serious offence:

If that person/s or Club re offend within that (12) twelve month period they lose the bond, start with the original length of suspension and then face the investigating committee for further penance.

The offending person(s) will have their membership cancelled indefinitely.

The offending person(s) will be suspended from the club indefinitely.

The offending person(s), not being a member of the Club, will be suspended from attending Club games or functions indefinitely.

**Members Code of Conduct Form**

We as members of the Gladstone AFL Mudcrabstrading as the ***THE GLADSTONE AFL FOOTBALL CLUB INC*** (“The Club”) agree to be bound by the following:

1. We have read and understand the Philosophy and Code of Conduct of the Gladstone AFL Mudcrabs Football Club.

2.We agree to conduct ourselves according to the Philosophy and agree to be bound by the Code of Conduct.

3. We agree not to issue any claims against “The Club”, Committee or members now or in the future for any action they may take or penalty imposed upon us should we breach the Code of Conduct.

**In signing this Code of Conduct form, we acknowledge that we have read and understood the above terms and requirements and hereby agree to be bound by all such terms, conditions and requirements**.

President: ……………………………………….. Date …. /……….. / …………..

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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**COACH / PLAYERS AND SUPPORT STAFF**

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| ***GLADSTONE AFL MUDCRABS FOOTBALL CLUB* CODE of CONDUCT** | | |
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