



Code of Conduct

Viking Surf Sports is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of all its members and is dedicated to providing a safe environment for those participating in Surf Life Saving activities and events. We want Viking Surf Sports and its programs to be fun, enjoyable and safe for all.

Viking Surf Sport Programs (Nippers and Rookie Lifeguards) are nurtured in an environment that values safety, trust, respect, caring and responsibility and at its heart have the following values:

- safety and support
- caring and camaraderie
- trust and teamwork
- respect and responsibility.

We all love our sport, but what is equally important is the way the game is played and the manner in which our young sportsmen/women conduct themselves. Our Code of Conduct identifies a series of key principles on which young nippers, coaches and parents/spectators should base their sporting involvement.

The Codes will ensure that young people develop good sporting behaviours and have an enjoyable experience of sport, which will encourage them to remain involved throughout their lives.

Nippers & Rookie Lifeguards

As a Viking I commit to:

- Be Kind
- Work Hard
- Have Fun
- Try my best
- Participate for fun and strive to improve my ability
- Listen carefully to the instructions of my Coaches & Age Managers
- Always follow the rules and respect the ocean and conditions
- Never use bad language towards my Age Manager, fellow Nippers & Rookies, parents, competitors or any member of the public.

- Be grateful to my coaches, age managers and parents and thank them for providing me with my nippers/rookie experience.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team/club. Your team/club's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport - cheer ALL good competitors and anyone who gives 100%
- Not throw sand during Nipper/Rookie activities
- Respect my fellow Nippers/Rookies and never use physical or verbal abuse towards them
- Treat my fellow Nippers/Rookies and competitors as I would like to be treated
- ENJOY YOURSELF!

In the event of a Nipper/Rookie displaying bad behavior and their actions are deemed to be a breach of the code of conduct the Coach or Age Manager may sit the Nipper/Rookie out of activities. If the behavior of the Nipper/Rookie is deemed a continual and serious breach of the code of conduct, their parent will be informed and asked to accompany their Nipper/Rookie during the rest of the session (or until the Age Manager decides that your child may return to the group as normal). A three strike policy will be implemented and if behaviour continues the child will no longer be able to take part in Viking Surf Sports.

Coaches Code of Conduct

Safety and Health of Participants

- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Be aware of and support the sport's injury management plans and return to play guidelines.

Coaching excellence

- Help each person (athlete, official, etc) to reach their potential. Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.
- Treat each participant as an individual.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of participants.

Honour the sport

- Act within the rules and spirit of surf sports.
- Promote fair play over winning at any cost.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators.
- Show respect and courtesy to all involved with the sport.

Integrity

- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- Ensure that any physical contact with another person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications or coaching experience to be misrepresented.

Respect

- Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
- Do not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour.

Parent Behaviour Code of Conduct

- If children are interested, encourage them to play. However, if they are not willing, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child to set realistic goals related to their ability rather than the emphasis on winning.
- Teach them that an honest effort is just as important as victory so that each result can be accepted without undue disappointment.
- Encourage nippers to play according to the rules.
- Remember they learn best by example. Applaud good performance by all.
- Support efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognise the value and importance of helping out and becoming involved. Even the smallest help will be appreciated

Spectator Behaviour Code of Conduct

Our commitment

Our club is committed to providing a safe environment for participation. Aggressive, threatening or other inappropriate behaviour by members, their families, their friends, and other sporting personnel while attending training or event will not be tolerated.

These behaviours are outlined in our Code of Behaviour and specifically include:

- using bad language
- harassing or ridiculing players, coaches, officials or other spectators

- making racist, religious, sexist or other inappropriate comments to players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- any threatening behaviour or physical altercation between spectators and players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- putting undue pressure on children, berating them or putting down their performance.

What we will do

- Provide members, their parents and other sporting personnel with our Code of Behaviour and make clear what is expected and the consequences of non-compliance.
- Reinforce messages of fair and respectful behaviour by providing information on our website, in our newsletter and through other club communication.
- Encourage our coaches and officials to complete training to develop their skills and confidence.
- Encourage the reporting of incidents and investigate inappropriate behaviours as outlined in this policy and take disciplinary or whatever other actions as are deemed necessary
- Encourage our players, coaches, officials and spectators to call the police if they are concerned about escalating behaviour and their safety or the safety of others.

What we ask you to do

- Help create a positive atmosphere for players, officials and other spectators by showing respect for players, officials and other spectators.
- Abide by our club's Code of Behaviour and refrain from using bad language, harassing or ridiculing others or behaving in a threatening or violent manner.
- If you are aware of inappropriate spectator behaviour and you feel confident to do so, speak with the person and ask them to stop. If there is a ground official or committee member present, ask for their assistance.
- Report any inappropriate spectator behaviour to the club president or someone in a position of authority.
- Call the police or a club official if you are concerned for your safety or the safety of others.

Non-Compliance

Parents or others found to have behaved inappropriately, and who are associate members or have agreed to abide by our club's Code of Behaviour and this policy, may face disciplinary action and removal from the club.