



**FIRST TEAM CODE OF CONDUCT  
AND  
PLAYER INFORMATION  
SEASON 2016/2017**

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<b>Assistant Manager</b>	<b>Adam Douglas</b>	<b>mobile: 07465488141</b>
<b>Club Secretary</b>	<b>Sarah Hindle</b>	<b>mobile: 07938671622</b>
<b>Physiotherapist</b>	<b>Callum Fletcher</b>	<b>mobile: 07595873442</b>

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN THE ATTACHED A.F.C. DARWEN ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM TO CONFIRM THEY HAVE RECEIVED A COPY, HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED TO ABIDE BY ALL THE ITEMS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT. THE SIGNED MEMBERSHIP FORM, MUST BE THEN BE PASSED TO THE CLUB SECRETARY SARAH HINDLE FOR RETENTION.**



## CODE OF CONDUCT

1. All players must adhere to time keeping as set by the management team. Training times will be advised by team management and must be adhered to.
2. Players are not allowed the use of **MOBILE PHONES** in the dressing room for either training or match days.
3. All injuries must be reported immediately to the club physiotherapist **AND** management by telephone.
4. Any illnesses must be reported to Scott Campbell and/or Sarah Hindle by telephone.
5. Smoking and E-Cigarettes are strictly forbidden in the football ground and dressing room on both match days and training nights.
6. Players must not make statements, nor act in anyway, which will bring AFC Darwen into disrepute or is offensive to others; this includes the use of social media site as such as Facebook and Twitter etc.
7. Any player cautioned or dismissed shall automatically have to pay the FA Administration Fee. This is in addition to any fine that also be imposed under the fines tariff later shown in this document.
8. All players are required to participate in club activities such as information evenings, supporter events etc.
9. FA rules state that no player or person involved in the management of AFC Darwen can place a bet on any game in which their team plays nor place a bet on any other team playing in the competition in which they have played this season. This means any game played in the North /west counties League, FA Cup, FA Vase Cup and any County FA Competitions.
10. Only the Team Captain is allowed to speak to the referee.
11. Players are required to wear any issued kit including club track suits for match days (home and away).



12. Football boots must be clean and fit for purpose on match days. This being both studs and rubbers.

**We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.**

Players tell us they want a referee for every match, yet 7,000 match official's drop out each season because of the abuse and intimidation they receive on and off the pitch. **Respect** your referee today and you may just get one for every match this season. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for players at all times.

**On and off the field, I will:**

- Adhere to the Laws of the Game
- Display and promote high standards of behaviour
- Promote fair play and behave within the spirit of the Laws of the Game
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Avoid bullying, intimidation and poor behaviour
- Speak to my team-mates, the opposition and my coach/manager with respect
- Ask my team captain to talk to the referee if I have a problem relating to the game
- Remember we all make mistakes
- Shake hands with the opposing team and the match officials at the end of every game

**The Captain's role**

**As your team's captain, you have a vital role to play in helping us achieve the number one priority for footballers in The FA's biggest-ever survey of grassroots football - a referee for every game.**

Thousands of referees are dropping out each season because of the abuse and intimidation they receive. It ruins games and can cause matches to be abandoned. Then we've all lost.

**Captain taking responsibility** As a captain, you have no special status or privileges under the Laws of the Game, but you do have a degree of responsibility for the behaviour of your team. To promote Respect, the referee will work with you, as the team captain, to manage the players and the game effectively. Even if you are some way away from an incident when the referee feels he/she needs you involved in a discussion with a player, the referee will call you over. This will ensure that, as the team captain, you remain the point of contact for the referee. To find out more about how referees and captains need to work together as part of Respect, **How Captains can help to instill Respect:**

- Ensure you wear a Respect captain's armband - these will be provided by your league to your club
- Together with your opposition captain, make yourself known to the referee before



- the game. He/she will ask if you are clear about your responsibilities
- Ensure all your players understand what they can/cannot do in relation to the referee and what is meant by 'unwanted behaviour'. No-one's trying to curb enthusiasm - just instill more discipline. This can only benefit your match - and football as a whole
  - Ensure your vice-captain (appoint one if you haven't got one) is aware of these rules, in case you are unavailable for a game, or have to leave the field
  - Ensure every player in your team has signed the Respect Code of Conduct

**I understand that breaches of the code may result in action being taken by AFC Darwen, County FA and /or The FA.**

### **In addition:**

The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on AFC Darwen.

### **Players**

#### ***The person concerned may:***

- Be required to apologise to his/her team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the Manager or AFC Darwen Management Committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave AFC Darwen

#### ***Adult players may also:***

- Receive a written warning from the club
- Be required to attend an FA education course
- Not be selected for the team
- Be required to serve a suspension
- Be fined

### **FINES TARIFF**

- Cautions**  
£10.00 FA Administration Fee
- Dismissal for foul and abusive Language**  
£10.00 Club fine plus £30.00 FA administration fee = Total £40.00
- A second dismissal for foul and abusive language**



will see the club fine increased to £20.00 plus £30.00 FA Administration fee = Total £50.00

- Dismissal for violent conduct**  
£20.00 plus FA Administration fee of £30.00 = Total £50.00
  
- Other dismissals**  
Fines are whatever is issued by the LFA

**NOTE:**

*Any player that receives a red card for foul and abusive language, violent conduct and/or misconduct will also be required to attend a disciplinary hearing with AFC Darwen's Management Committee*

**Players should note that AFC Darwen has implemented a zero tolerance policy to dissent and the use of foul and abusive language and/or violent conduct. This is to try and protect the club from stringent FA fines for not controlling their players during the course of a game. Six cautions and/or including any dismissals in one game, incurs the club with an automatic fine of £150.00.**

**In addition, the club is liable for a further FA fine if it averages more than 40% above the average FA Disciplinary Points for the Division in which it plays. The easiest way to ensure the club does not incur this hefty fine is to ensure all cautions and dismissal such as for dissent and foul and abusive language are not incurred. Consequently, players who receive dissent cautions or are dismissed for foul and abusive language will be fined accordingly to this schedule WITHOUT exception.**

**If the club is penalised financially for the conduct of its players the FULL amount of each fine shall be recovered from all the players involved.**

**There will be no right of appeal by any player against any fine(s) imposed.**

**For further information on fines imposed by the Lancashire County Football Association. Please refer to the F.A. SANCTION DOCUMENT. This document serves as a useful guide and will enable Participants to have an awareness of likely sanctions should any case against them be found proven**

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOU ARE REPRESENTING A.F.C. DARWEN AND ARE EXPECTED TO BEHAVE IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER AT ALL TIMES.**

### **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

**Travel arrangements will be advised for away games by the manager. Please ensure you arrive at the meeting point punctually and dressed in the correct clothing.**

