



Code of Conduct

STRATFORD-GRANGECON GAA CLUB

Code of Conduct Policy Statement

Stratford Grangecon GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. We encourage '*best practice*' in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, shows respect and understanding for members rights, safety and welfare.

Young players in particular, deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse in any form. These players have rights, which must be respected, and rules that as members, they must accept.

Generalised Code of Conduct and Best Practice

The code is in accordance with the guidelines produced by the Gaelic Athletic Association in their '*Code of Best Practice for Youth Sport*', approved for use by the Irish Sports Council and the Sports Council of Northern Ireland. Additional copies are available from the Club Secretary.

The achievement of '*best practice*' is dependent on:

- the development of skill and well being through the playing, coaching and promotion of our games
- the adoption of the principles of *fair play* and *good behaviour* at all times
- the development of a positive, constructive, supportive and encouraging team environment
- maximising the sense of achievement, fun and participation in order to develop players to their full potential

Stratford Grangecon GAA is founded on the core values of mutual respect, valuing each person, and support and encouragement among team members, managers, coaches, mentors and other members of the club.

Our coaching resources and activities are firmly rooted in the local community. We are committed to providing an environment that promotes a '*sense of belonging*' in our club and an ethos that will allow players to perform to the best of their ability, free from bullying and intimidation.

Inappropriate behaviour (as laid out in our *Code of Conduct and Best Practice*) by any member of the club (or any person/persons associated with the club) that undermines these values is unacceptable and will be considered a breach of the club's Code of Conduct. Such behaviour will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the club (as outlined in the *Code of Conduct Committee Guidelines*).

The *Code of Conduct and Best Practice* forms part of our clubs constitution and ethos, and as such, it is part of the rules and regulations that bind the operation of the club and its members.

All persons associated with Stratford Grangecon GAA are expected to uphold and promote this ethos in all roles that they undertake on behalf of Stratford Grangecon GAA.



CLUB DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS FOR MENTORS AND PLAYERS

- The Club Executive Committee shall deal with all disciplinary matters as they arise.
 - The Executive committee is comprised of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Juvenile Chairman, Juvenile Secretary and 5 other committee members.
- This Committee will investigate breaches of behaviour as required, either by referral to it, or on its own initiative.
- After an investigation, and if deemed appropriate, suitable action may be sanctioned.
- All Club Members on whom the Executive Committee has imposed a sanction will have the right to appeal that decision to the Disciplinary Committee. This appeal must be lodged with the Club Executive, in writing, within seven days of the sanction being communicated to the offending party by the Club Executive.
 - The Disciplinary Committee is comprised of a maximum of 5 committee members who are not members of the Club Executive Committee,
- The Executive Committee has the right to prevent a player participating for the Club in accordance with Club Constitution if it feels that his/her conduct is a danger to others, and likely to damage the reputation or cohesion of the Club and any of its teams.
- The Club may discipline mentors and players who are involved in any breach of the Club's Code of Conduct and Best Practice such as:
 - An unruly altercation with Team Management or Players.
 - Refusal to accept the decisions of Team Management.
 - An unruly altercation with own teammates.
 - Abusive and unacceptable attitudes to match officials.
 - Being unavailable for selection to any Club team for questionable or unsatisfactory reasons



STRATFORD GRANGECON GAA CLUB

Code of Conduct and Best Practice for Adult Players

Policy Statement - Adult Players

Stratford Grangecon GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. We encourage 'best practice' in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, shows respect and understanding for members rights, safety and welfare. We aim to assist our adult players in achieving their true potential by fair and ethical means. In accordance with this guiding philosophy, our sport must be drug free and played in accordance with a spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

Code of Conduct

Adult players can ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles. Adult players should;

1. respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player and treat each player equally, regardless of age, gender, ethnic origin, religion, background or ability
2. encourage the development of respect for opponents, officials, selectors, and other coaches, and avoid criticism of mentors and officials
3. never bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player
4. never use bullying tactics to gain an unfair advantage
5. respect fellow team members - even when things go wrong
6. respect opponents - be humble in victory and gracious in defeat
7. behave in a manner that avoids bringing the sport and our club into disrepute
8. accept apologies from opponents when offered
9. should not spread rumours, or tell lies about officials or other players
10. represent their family, club and county with pride and dignity
11. shake hands with their opponents before and after the game irrespective of the result

12. adhere to proper standards of behaviour and the club's *Code of Conduct and Best Practice* when travelling to away events
13. let the coach/mentor know when they are unavailable for training and competition
14. respect club property and the personal belongings of others and in particular, that dressing rooms, equipment and facilities are not damaged in any way
15. be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at players for making mistakes or for losing a game
16. be punctual, properly attired, and lead by example
17. not equate losing with failure
18. not use foul or provocative language
19. not use cameras, videos, camera-phones etc., in changing rooms
20. discourage the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the basis that they are incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity
21. display leadership and good example particularly when dealing with underage members
22. should observe the law in relation to illegal drugs and the use of alcohol and tobacco
23. bring any concerns they may have in relation to club activities to the attention of their mentors, or to the club's Chairperson. Contact details may be found on the club's web-site.

***PLEASE CUT OUT THIS PANEL AND RETURN IT TO THE NOMINATED OFFICIAL OF
STRATFORD GRANGECON GAA***

This code of conduct and best practice addresses the minimum levels of behaviour required from our Adult Players

Declaration

I _____ (print name) acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Code of Conduct, which I have read and understood in full. I agree to be bound by the principles set out in the code

Signed: _____

Date: _____



STRATFORD GRANGECON GAA CLUB

Code of Conduct and Best Practice for Club Members

Policy Statement – Club Members

Stratford Grangecon GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. We encourage 'best practice' in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, shows respect and understanding for members rights, safety and welfare. We aim to assist our members in achieving their true potential by fair and ethical means. In accordance with this guiding philosophy, our sport must be drug free and played in accordance with a spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

Code of Conduct

Club members can ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles. Club members should;

1. respect the rights, dignity and worth of every member and treat each member equally, regardless of age, gender, ethnic origin, religion, background or ability
2. encourage the development of respect for opponents, officials, selectors, and other coaches, and avoid criticism of players, mentors and officials
3. never bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another member
4. never use bullying tactics to gain an unfair advantage
5. respect fellow club members - even when things go wrong
6. respect opponents - be humble in victory and gracious in defeat
7. behave in a manner that avoids bringing the sport and our club into disrepute
8. accept apologies from club members and opponents when offered
9. should not spread rumours, or tell lies about officials or other members
10. represent their family, club and county with pride and dignity
11. adhere to proper standards of behaviour and the club's *Code of Conduct and Best Practice* when travelling to away events

12. respect club property and the personal belongings of others and in particular, that dressing rooms, equipment and facilities are not damaged in any way
13. be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at players for making mistakes or for losing a game
14. not equate losing with failure
15. not use foul or provocative language
16. discourage the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the basis that they are incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity
17. display leadership and good example particularly when dealing with underage members
18. bring any concerns they may have in relation to club activities to the attention of club mentors, or to the club's Chairperson. Contact details may be found on the club's web-site.

***PLEASE CUT OUT THIS PANEL AND RETURN IT TO THE NOMINATED OFFICIAL OF
STRATFORD GRANGECON GAA***

This code of conduct and best practice addresses the minimum levels of behaviour required from our Club Members

Declaration

I _____ (print name) acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Code of Conduct, which I have read and understood in full. I agree to be bound by the principles set out in the code

Signed: _____

Date: _____