

Coogee Minnows



Code Of Conduct

& Expectations

Season 2023/24

The Coogee Minnows Code of Conduct expresses the Coogee Minnows expectations of behaviour in relation to participant, parent, helper and the committee during all junior activities.

It encompasses Coogee Surf Life Saving Club's Values of:

Honesty and Transparency – we recognise the importance of trust and accountability

One Club, one Vision – we believe in unity

Respect and Integrity – we are committed to the highest standards of ethics, behaviour and mutual respect

Inclusivity and Tolerance – we will treat each other with mutual respect and celebrate diversity

Community and Culture – we belong to our unique community culture, but acknowledge our involvement in the broader SLS movement

(as outlined on the website <https://www.coogeefclub.com.au/club-information.html>)

By joining Coogee Minnows, the Nipper and Parent / Caregiver acknowledges and accepts these Codes of Conduct.

Parents & Caregivers Code

- Do not force an unwilling child to participate
- Children are involved for their enjoyment, not yours
- Encourage children to play by the rules
- Encourage children to show respect to Age Managers, Coaches, Age Assistant and Water Safety at all times
- Encouraging the effort is just as important as the result.
- Work towards improving skills and sportspersonship
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Recognise efforts of Age Managers, Coaches, Age Assistants, Trainers, Water Safety and Committee Members. They are all **VOLUNTEERS**, who freely give their time. They are doing their best for your children.
- Reiterate the messaging that you receive by email and social channels in relation to your child's Age Group as it helps them on the beach

Parents, Caregivers, & Spectators Code at Competition

In addition to the Parents & Caregivers general code, the following are applicable at competition events:

- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing. Set realistic goals..
- Encourage children to give their best effort in individual and team events, always play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or verbally abuse a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Never approach a competitor on their own or separate a child from a group to criticise or otherwise
- Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants, whether they represent Coogee or other clubs. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Show appreciation for officials, coaches, managers and administrators. Respect their decisions and teach children to do likewise. Without them, your child could not participate.
- If you disagree with an Official, Coach or Age Coordinator, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question their judgement and honesty in public

Participants Code

- Participate for the enjoyment of the sport, not just to please your parents / caregivers.
- Follow the rules
- Give your best effort at all times
- Be a good sport and applaud all performances
- Treat other participants as you would like to be treated
- Encourage all in your team
- Attend the required number of Minnows Sundays in order to attain your Surf Education Award (This will be outlined by your age manager at the commencement of the season)
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse, sledging or provoking fellow participants are not acceptable or permitted behaviours
- Listen to and respect your Age Manager's, Coaches, Age Assistants, Age Coordinators, Team Managers, Water Safety and Trainers. Without them there would be no Minnows
- Take care of and respect the equipment made available during Minnows. Wash it and return it after use. Report any damage to your Age Manager / Coach
- Respect the club house and boat shed. Treat it as you would treat your home. Leave it tidy
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion

Participants Code at Competition

In addition to the Participants general code, the following are applicable at competition events:

- Compete within the rules, and within the spirit of Surf Lifesaving and Coogee Minnows
- Never argue with an Official. If you disagree, have your Age Coordinator, Coach or Team Manager approach the Official Liaison as per protocols as soon as possible after the incident
- Work equally hard for your team as you would for yourself, giving your best effort
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good performances whether they are given by Coogee competitors or competitors from other clubs.
- Treat all participants as you would like to be treated. Do not bully, interfere or take unfair advantage of another competitor
- Cooperate with your Coach, Age Coordinators, Team Managers, Teammates, Officials and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Attend the required number of Minnows Sundays in order to attain your Surf Education Award (This will be outlined by your competition coordinators at the commencement of the season)

If you have any issues with the conduct of any child or other representative of Coogee Minnows or Coogee Surf Life Saving Club, please contact your Age Manager in the first instance.

If the issue is in relation to the Age Manager, please contact the Minnows Captain at captain@coogeeminnows.com.au.

Contacts can be found here - <https://www.coogeesurfclub.com.au/nippers-contact-us.html>

Remember, Nippers are children, and their enjoyment is our priority

Age Manager / Coaches / Age Assistants / Age Coordinators / Team Managers / Water Safety Code

- Be responsible for the overall safety and well-being of the group
- Be responsible for the group's learning
- Make sure the opportunity for participation is available for all children
- Encourage participation for the fun of it
- Do not yell or abuse a child for making a mistake
- Teach participants the rules for their safety
- Avoid encouraging and rewarding only the talented children, all children deserve equal encouragement
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Follow Club team selection recommendations for competitive carnivals

Coogee Minnows Executive / Management Committee Code

- Promote and respect the rights and dignity of every person regardless of gender, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation and ensure that the organisation promotes a safe and inclusive environment
- Protect the integrity of the sport at all times by ensuring that the behaviour and conduct of every person is consistent with the rules, the principles of fair play and the standards of safe and inclusive sport
- Protect the safety and wellbeing of members at all times by ensuring that appropriate safeguarding measures and policies are in place, easily accessible and understood by every person, and reviewed regularly
- Be impartial, consistent and transparent in your conduct and decision-making, accept responsibility for your actions

- Make decisions in the best interests of your members and the sport
- Promote a safe and inclusive environment, in which every person feels welcomed and is protected and free from discrimination, harassment and abuse
- Ensure that all participants, parents and spectators, helpers place wellbeing and enjoyment ahead of performance and outcomes
- Create pathways that support participants and helpers to improve their skill development
- Provide equal opportunities for all participants and helpers to participate, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background
- At all times act as a role model for others, displaying high standards of good sporting behaviour
- Never engage in inappropriate conduct whilst in an official capacity
- Ensure that all members are made aware of their rights and responsibilities under the appropriate legislation including: Member Protection Policy, Code of Conduct, Child Safe Policy and Anti-discrimination Policy, and know the process by which to refer a complaint or breach

Incidents and Breaches

Breaches of this code will be assessed by the Age Managers / Coaches and/or reported to and reviewed by the Coogee Minnows Executive / Management Committee for investigation and action.

If it is determined that there has been a disciplinary breach, the incident will be graded as mild, moderate or severe.

Mild incidents will be settled with a warning issued to the person concerned by the Age Manager, Age Assistants, Water Safety, Coaches and any further similar action will be automatically upgraded to a moderate breach or greater.

Moderate incidents will be referred to and reviewed by the Age Managers / Coaches in conjunction with the parents / caregivers.

Severe incidents will be referred to and reviewed by the Age Managers / Coaches in conjunction with the parents / caregivers. It will also be referred to the Coogee Minnows Executive and Management Committees and sanctions may be imposed which may include but not be limited to suspension from participation for a determined period of time.

The decision of the Age Manger's / Coaches and /or Committees will be final.

The Coogee Minnows Code of Conduct has been adapted from the Sport Australia Code of Conduct Template

(https://www.sportaus.gov.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0006/910743/Code-of-Conduct-Template.docx), Play by the Rules (<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/>) and the Coogee Minnows Competition Code of Conduct.