



Darlington Young Bulls FC: Policies & Procedures

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Darlington Young Bulls FC is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our members so they can participate in football in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club. We are a **TELLING** club: this means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the Club Welfare Officer or any committee member. This club is committed to playing its part to teach players to treat each other with respect.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- ⊗ **Emotional being unfriendly, sending hurtful messages through text or social media (cyber bullying/trolling), tormenting (e.g., hiding football boots/shin guards, threatening gestures)**
- ⊗ **Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence**
- ⊗ **Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments**
- ⊗ **Discrimination racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, homophobic comments, jokes about disabled people, sexist comments**
- ⊗ **Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing**

Our Commitment

This club commits to ensure our website websites and/ or social networking pages are being used appropriately and any online bullying will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with procedures detailed in this policy.

Objectives of this Policy

All club members coaches, officials and parents:

- ⊗ **should understand what bullying is.**
- ⊗ **should know what the club policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.**

Signs and Indicators

Adults should investigate if a child:

- ⊗ **says he or she is being bullied**
- ⊗ **is unwilling to go to club sessions**
- ⊗ **becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence**
- ⊗ **feels ill before training sessions**
- ⊗ **comes home with clothes torn or training equipment damaged**
- ⊗ **has possessions go "missing"**
- ⊗ **asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay the bully)**
- ⊗ **has unexplained cuts or bruises**
- ⊗ **is frightened to say what's wrong**
- ⊗ **gives improbable excuses for any of the above.**

