*At Montrose Youth Football Club our vision is to realise the needs, wants, and unlimited ambitions of its young people; to empower our players regardless of their age, needs, or background.*

*It is vital that our players feel safe, protected, and nurtured in an environment in which they can thrive.*

*Players also have an important role in ensuring that football is a safe and welcoming space for everyone.*

**As a young player under the age of**

**18 years, I have the right to:**

* Be safe and protected
* Be listened to
* Be respected
* Be treated fairly
* Be believed
* Ask for help
* Be coached by someone who has the right qualifications

**As a young player, I WILL ALWAYS**

* Play fairly
* Follow the rules of the game
* Respect the decision of Referees
* Listen to my coaches
* Be supportive of my teammates
* Be friendly to other players
* Behave like a role model, in and out of football
* Be gracious in victory and defeat
* Use social media in a positive way
* Tell someone I trust at the Club if something worries or upsets me

**As a young player, I WILL NOT:**

* Use bad language
* Use abusive or offensive language or gestures
* Cheat, dive, or time waste
* Criticise other players
* Put anything inappropriate on social media about coaches, clubs, or players
* Bully other players in person or online

**I understand that if I do not follow this Code of Conduct there may be consequences:**

* Be asked to apologise
* Receive a formal warning
* Be suspended from training
* Be suspended from games
* Be required to leave the club
* Be asked to attend educational course

*Parents and Carers play a pivotal part in the football lives of their children, encouraging and supporting their participation, enjoyment, and success in the game.*

*They also have their part to play in the collective responsibility we all share in setting a good example for our young players and helping to create a safe and supportive environment where players thrive.*

**AT ALL TIMES, I WILL:**

* Respect the decisions of match officials, even if I don’t agree with them
* Be supportive of all players
* Respect the choices and decisions of club coaches
* Be positive about my child’s performance
* Encourage my child to play by the rules
* Only shout encouragement from the sidelines
* Demonstrate good sportsmanship
* Let the coaches coach
* Provide any necessary medical information about my child to the club
* Report any concerns to the club CWPO or Chair
* Always be respectful of those involved in the game, including online
* Ask questions in a calm, respectful way

**I WILL NOT:**

* Criticise my child, or other players
* Use inappropriate, abusive or offensive language at training or matches
* Talk about players, officials, or coaches in an inappropriate, offensive way
* Intimidate, abuse, or assault referees, club officials, or other parents/carers
* Shout instructions from the side-lines
* Criticise the decisions of the referee
* Punish or belittle my child for making mistakes
* Force my child into playing football

**I understand that if I breach this Code of Conduct, I may be subject to consequences including:**

* Being asked to apologise
* Receive a formal warning
* Be suspended from attending training
* Be suspended from attending matches
* Be asked to undertake education course
* Barred from SFA events

*Coaches and Officials play a vital role in the youth game in Scotland, and in the lives of the players whom they coach; they ensure players are safe, develop their footballing skills, maintaining enjoyment of the game, and building lifelong connections to the game we love.*

*Coaches and Officials are in a unique position of trust in football, and therefore it is important that they adhere to the highest standards of best practice.*

**I WILL NEVER:**

* engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour
* exert due influence over players, parents, or colleagues
* bring the game into disrepute
* engage in, or tolerate any form of bullying or abuse
* enter into an inappropriate relationship with a young player or young official

**I understand that if I breach this Code of Conduct, I may be subject to consequences including:**

* Receive a verbal warning
* Receive a written warning
* Be subject to a period of supervision
* Require to attend additional training
* Ask to apologise
* Be suspended from governing body (SWF, SYFA)
* Be referred to Police Scotland, and/or other relevant statutory body
* Be referred to Disclosure Scotland

**As an MYFC Official, I WILL:**

* Abide by the MYFC Child Wellbeing and Protection Policy
* Ensure that my e-learning, declarations, and PVG are up to date
* Treat everyone with respect and dignity, regardless of their gender, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religion, or political affiliation
* Treat every player equitably
* Remember that I am a role model, and shall always behave in an ethical and professional manner
* Respect the decision of referees and officials, and encourage players to do the same
* Positively promote the reputation of youth football
* Remember that the safety and wellbeing of young players is the paramount consideration
* Report any concerns that I have seen or been advised of to the CWPO or my governing body (SWF or SYFA)