



7th November 2025
Parents and Carers of
Baltic Youth FC U14 Players

Refocusing on Positive Behaviours

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. As a team, we are proud of the progress our players have made. The scorelines on a Sunday don't reflect that progress. Football is about more than just the game—it's about teamwork, respect, and creating an environment where every child feels supported and encouraged.

There have been a few situations where behaviours around matches and training haven't fully reflected these values. Recently, these have been substantial and have been reported to the FA. To ensure the best experience for all players, coaches, and families, we're taking a moment to refocus on what makes our team special: **positive support, respect for officials, and encouragement for every child—regardless of the score.**

We kindly ask that all parents and carers continue to:

- Model respectful behaviour towards referees, coaches, and other teams.
- Keep sideline comments positive and focused on effort, not criticism.
- Help us create an atmosphere where every player feels confident and safe.

As I send this letter to you, I have already spoken to your children with regards to the FA's Grassroots Code of Conduct. Reminding them of what they have already agreed to abide to.

We're here to enjoy ourselves...win, lose or draw.

To help make football more enjoyable for all I should:

- Remember that football is about enjoyment, not just winning.
- Encourage others and behave well.
- Bring a positive attitude to training and matches.
- Recognise when my team-mates give respect, work together, or try their best.

We always treat others as we'd like to be treated.

To give respect at football I must:

- Always use respectful language and actions.
- Not argue with the referee, coach, and officials, and accept their decisions about football and my behaviour.
- Show fair play by shaking hands with our opponents whether we win, lose or draw.
- Tidy up after myself and take care of the facilities we use.

We embrace our differences, football is a game for everyone.

To be inclusive at football I must:

- Welcome everyone, whoever they are and whatever their background or ability.
- Involve everyone and always be kind.
- Treat everyone fairly and tell a trusted adult if this doesn't happen.
- Celebrate everyone's good play, effort and success.

We're a team, on and off the pitch.

To help us bond as a team I should:

- Encourage my team-mates if they make a mistake.
- Try my best and help my team, by being positive and supportive.
- Play fairly, without cheating, diving, complaining, or wasting time.
- Accept that I may not be able to play in my favourite position all the time, or that I may need to take a break to give someone else playing time.
- Recognise that if I'm the Captain, I need to try hard to set a positive example for others to follow.




We all have a role in safeguarding children.

To help keep everyone safe I must:

- Remember football is about making friends, learning new skills and of course, being active!
- Take responsibility, encourage others, and keep it positive.
- Know that I have a right:
 - To feel safe online and offline.
 - To have healthy relationships with appropriate boundaries.
 - Not to feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
 - Not to be bullied, harassed, or intimidated.
 - Not to be treated unfairly.

The coaches agree to abide by the FA Code of Conduct for Adults in Grassroots Youth Football.

We are introducing a simple system of sanctions at training to counter behaviour that breaches the above Code of Conduct.

- **First incident**, players will receive a **Verbal Warning**. 
 - This is an opportunity to consider their behaviour.
- **Second incident**, players will receive a **Yellow Card** and **spend 5 minutes the sin bin**. 
 - This is an opportunity to remove them from the situation and cool off.
 - This is a second opportunity to consider their behaviour.
- **Third incident**, players will receive a **Red Card** and **not be selected for the next match**. 
 - Two Yellow cards (can be in consecutive training sessions) is equal to a Red Card.

Your support is vital in shaping the culture of our team. Together, we can make sure football remains fun, inclusive, and a great learning experience for everyone involved. Thank you for your understanding and commitment. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to reach out.

Warm regards,

Coach Stu Armstrong

Baltic Youth FC U14s Manager

