



Code of Conduct 2025 / 2026 Season

Lincolnshire Bombers American Football Club

12 OCTOBER 2025

Reviewed By: Sally Milford Safeguarding/welfare officer
Agreed By: Adam Thomason General Manager

To be reviewed annually.

Contents

General statement.....	2
Coaches conduct.....	3
Players conduct.....	6
Guardians / Spectators conduct.....	7
Social Media conduct.....	8

General statement

Lincolnshire Bombers American Football Club expects all our coaches, volunteers, players and parents to act as ambassadors not only for the organisation but also for the sport within the wider community.

This document indicates the minimum levels of conduct we expect anybody involved with the club to adhere to. These codes are applicable to the club as an entirety across all age ranges. Where required academy specific conduct has been identified.

If any member of the organisation (coach, volunteer, player or parent) contravenes parts of these expectations, consequences will be administered by the committee. These will take, but not be limited to the following formats:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Written warning.
3. Financial fine.
4. Game suspensions.
5. Permanent removal from the club.

The severity of the breach and the suitable punishment will be decided by the committee and the individuals in question will be informed of the outcome by the organisations General Manager.

Multiple breaches of the same conduct expectation will be dealt with more severely than an initial breach.

Dependant on the seriousness of the unwanted conduct police may also need to be involved.

Coaches conduct

The overall role of the coaches within the club will be as follows:

1. To ensure that they demonstrate safe practice at all times.
2. To ensure that they understand their role as set out by the head coach.
3. To ensure that they are acting within the Coaches Code of Conduct at all times.
4. Code of Conduct for coach/volunteers/staff.

We expect all of our coaches/staff/volunteers to act as ambassadors for the club. Below is summarised our ideals of good ethical conduct and practice. All coaches/staff/volunteers must:

Conduct expectation	Applicable to whole club	Applicable to adult team	Applicable to academy
1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of the sport, players and other staff alike.	X		
2. Treat everyone equally and do not discriminate based on age, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, disability or ability.	X		
3. If you see any discrimination from player or staff, do not condone or allow it to go unchallenged.	X		
4. Place the well-being and safety of the players above all else, including the development of performance.	X		
5. Develop an appropriate working relationship with the players based upon mutual trust and respect.	X		
6. Ensure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary for coaching within recommended guidelines and is carried out with the full consent and approval of the player.	X		
7. Always work in an open environment – never meet with a player/players without another adult present.			X
8. Do not engage in any sexual related contact with a player. This is strictly forbidden as is sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms.	X		
9. Know and understand the Child Welfare Policy and implement the policy through coaching and management of American Football.			X
10. Respect player's opinions when making decisions about their participation within American football.	X		
11. Inform players and parents of the requirements of American Football.			X

12. Beware of and report any conflict of interest as soon as it becomes apparent.	X		
13. Display high standards of language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation.	X		
14. Do not smoke, drink or use banned substances whilst actively working with players in the club. This reflects a negative image and could compromise the safety of the players.	X		
15. Do not give players any banned substances to players.	X		
16. Do not give any age restricted substances to players that are under the required legal age. These include but not limited to: alcohol, tobacco, legal or illegal drugs, energy drinks.			X
17. Ensure that activities are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.	X		
18. Promote the positive aspects of American Football, e.g. fair play and good sportsmanship.	X		
19. Display high standards of behaviour and appearance.	X		
20. Follow the guidelines as set out in the Lincolnshire Bombers Safeguarding Young Persons and Vulnerable Adults Policy and any other guidelines issued by BAFA (British American Football Association).	X		
21. Ensure that you continue to keep up to date with your personal development in regard to coaching and the welfare of young people.	X		
22. Report any concerns you have in relation to a player or other members of the Lincolnshire Bombers American Football Club to the Welfare Officer.	X		
23. If groups are to be supervised in changing rooms, make sure there is always a second adult present and that adults of the opposite sex are not present whilst players are changing.			X
24. If there are mixed gender teams, making sure there is always an adult of each gender in attendance.			X
25. Where possible, coaches should hold a level 1 qualification or aim to obtain one. Where possible a copy of this should be given to the general manager as a record.	X		
26. Ensure that you do not overly criticise athletes or use sarcasm where it may cause the player to lose self-esteem or confidence.	X		

27. Hold BAFA assured and approved DBS	X		
--	---	--	--

Players conduct

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of the sport, players and other staff alike.
2. Treat everyone equally and do not discriminate based on age, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, disability or ability.
3. If you see any discrimination from player or staff, do not condone or allow it to go unchallenged.
4. Report any concerns you have in relation to a player or other members of the Lincolnshire Bombers American Football Club to the Welfare Officer.
5. Respect player's opinions when making decisions about their participation within American football.
6. Display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
7. Promote the positive aspects of American Football, e.g. fair play and good sportsmanship.
8. Display high standards of language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation.
9. Do not use banned substances whilst engaging in club activities. This reflects a negative image and could compromise the safety of the players.
10. Do not provide banned substances to anybody during club activities.
11. Do not provide age restricted substances to people below the minimum legal age.
12. Club Subs are to be paid on time and in full by the dates agreed in this contract.
These are used to cover the operating costs of the organisation. Should you have any challenges with subs payments, you must speak directly to either the Treasurer, Head Coach or General Manager who will be able to assist.
13. On a Game Day, players and coaching staff are expected to wear Bombers, NFL, NCAA Merchandise or generic sports attire. Please note, other Brit Ball teams and Uni Ball teams merchandise/clothing will not be accepted when playing for the Lincolnshire Bombers on a game day. (This does not apply to training)
14. Team Uniform will be consistent, which will include 'Black Helmets' and Bombers club funded Decals
15. All SPOND polls are to be checked on a weekly basis to allow coaches to plan sessions, the committee team to make decisions, and for us to operate as an organisation in a timely and efficient manner.
16. Be on time for events, including Training Sessions & Game Day events.
17. Remember that skill development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of the game
18. Train regularly to meet the demands of the game
19. Take a responsibility for your own health and fitness
20. Make every effort to be attentive at all training and coaching sessions
21. Make the Head Coach/Team Manager aware if you are unable to attend a session
22. Make every effort to attend training events and games on time
23. Work equally hard for themselves and their team – both will then benefit!
24. Recognise good play by all players on their team and by their opponents
25. Be a sportsman – win with dignity, lose with grace.

Guardians / Spectators conduct

1. Be familiar with the coaching and training programme in order that they can ensure their child is fully involved and the coaches are aware of their availability
2. Be familiar with the teaching and coaching methods used by observing the coaching and training sessions in which their child participates
3. Be aware that the club has a duty of care to ensure the safety of players and therefore, where appropriate, assist coaches with the supervision of the players, particularly where numbers are large and there is a need to transport players to away games
4. Be involved with club activities and share your expertise
5. Offer support and volunteer to help the club. Don't wait to be asked
6. Be present
7. Share concerns, if you have them, with club officials
8. Remember that young people play sport for their own enjoyment not that of their parents
9. Encourage young people to play – do not force them
10. Focus on the players' efforts, rather than winning or losing
11. Be realistic about the players' abilities; do not push them towards a level they cannot achieve
12. Provide positive verbal feedback to all both in training and during the game
13. Remember that persistent, negative messages could adversely affect the player and match official performance and attitude
14. Always support the club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game
15. Remember young people learn much by example
16. Always show appreciation of good play by all players both from their own club and the opposition
17. Respect decisions made by the match officials, even if they appear to be a mistake, and encourage players to do likewise

Social Media conduct

Conduct expectation	Applicable to Coaches	Applicable to Players	Applicable to parents/spectators
Be responsible and respectful at all times	X	X	X
Remember everything you say is instantly in the public domain	X	X	X
Don't forget that you are responsible for what you post	X	X	X
Be aware your comments may be available for anyone to see permanently	X	X	X
Consider the potential consequences for you and the club of the things you publish	X	X	X
Don't ever say something in a post that you wouldn't be happy to say to someone's Face	X	X	X
Don't insult, cyberbully, attack or make negative comments about this club or other club's players, parents, coaches, managers, referees, training staff or their Supporters	X	X	X
Any negative commentary, such as a grievance or criticism should be directed to the individual or respective managers or coaches	X	X	X
If you see a negative comment, do not respond or escalate the issue in any way	X	X	X
Serious issues or concerns should be	X	X	X

discussed with the Club's Board of Directors			
Avoid gossip, inappropriate, defamatory, hateful, slanderous, upsetting or threatening comments	X	X	X
Do not post comments that could be judged to be harassment, abuse or libellous	X	X	X
Do not post comments intended to incite violence against others	X	X	X
Do not post any content that might be considered inappropriate or offensive to others	X	X	X
Respect the privacy and confidentiality of others in your posts: consider carefully how the text, audio, images and video you post may breach somebody else's privacy	X	X	X
Do not impersonate or falsely represent another person in your posts	X	X	X
Do not have private social media conversations with people under the age of 18	X	X	