

BE THE BEST FOOTBALL ACADEMY: Anti-Bullying Policy

- **1. Definition of Bullying**: Bullying is defined as any repeated, intentional, and aggressive behaviour that involves an imbalance of power. It can be physical, verbal, or psychological in nature and may include actions such as teasing, name-calling, exclusion, intimidation, or physical harm.
- **2. Zero Tolerance**: Our football academy has a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying. We are committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all participants, free from any form of bullying or harassment.
- **3. Prevention**: We will actively promote a positive and respectful culture within the academy, emphasizing the importance of fair play, teamwork, and mutual respect. Coaches, officials, and parents/guardians will be encouraged to educate players about the negative impact of bullying and the importance of reporting any incidents.
- **4. Reporting and Investigation**: Any player who experiences or witnesses bullying is encouraged to report it immediately to a coach, academy official, or designated person. All reports will be taken seriously and investigated promptly and impartially. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the process.
- **5. Support and Intervention**: Any player found to have engaged in bullying behaviour will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include warnings, suspension, or expulsion from the academy, depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents. The focus will be on educating and rehabilitating the individual, while also ensuring the safety and well-being of all participants.
- **6. Parent/Guardian Involvement**: Parents/guardians are encouraged to support the academy's anti-bullying policy and actively communicate with coaches and officials regarding any concerns or incidents. They should also educate their child about the importance of respectful behaviour and the consequences of bullying.
- **7. Awareness and Training**: Coaches, officials, and volunteers will receive training on recognizing and addressing bullying behaviour. They will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to intervene effectively and support victims.
- **8. Regular Review**: This anti-bullying policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Any necessary updates or improvements will be made in consultation with relevant stakeholders.