



Spectators Code

We believe that young sportsmen and women are impressionable and that their behaviour often reflects that of the adults around them. Happily we are blessed at Penryn College to have parents that understand sport. As a result their behaviour at sports matches tends to be appropriate and positive. In order to reinforce this we have compiled the following code (adapted from various sources).

At Penryn College we encourage spectators next to any sports field to embrace the ethos of sport at the College. This is as follows:

We expect learners in sports teams to strive to win. The will to win is an important part of life and sport is a useful tool indeed in developing this. It is however, also important that matches are used to develop the skill of the individual, and it is also important that the learners have fun in an enjoyable game. Both of these aspects are cumulative and build from game to game in a positive environment.

Accordingly you as parent are encouraged to:

- Act as positive role models to all young players;
- Be aware that your child will be acutely aware of verbal and emotional abuse. They are trying their best, and abuse in that context is likely to cause permanent psychological scars;
- Remember that the learners are playing sport for their enjoyment and not yours. Please enjoy them enjoying themselves;
- Encourage your child and others to try their best. Accentuate the positive and do not point out what they have just done wrong. That is the job of the coach;
- Acknowledge good individual and team performances for all learners, irrespective of which team they play for;
- Respect the decision of a match official. Even when it is wrong. Remember they are volunteers providing an opportunity for your child;
- Condemn bad language, rude behaviour and violence;
- Remember it is only a game in which your child is learning more about themselves. This will be both when they win and when they lose;
- In this regard, learning to lose with dignity is important in the long term development of an attitude in striving to win.

We look forward to having you supporting your child. Nothing is more important for them. Thank you for reading this document and for thinking about it.

Sincerely

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Greg Theron
Head – College

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John Lees
Head – Prep