**Code of Conduct – Parents/Carers**

As parents/carers we have a responsibility as adults to promote the highest standards of behaviour among ourselves and young players, understand that Darkstar Volleyball Club is a grassroots club run by volunteers. The club and coaches sign up to safeguarding and codes of conduct, but parents/carers have a major part to play in assisting and reinforcing those values, and keeping volleyball safe and fun for young players.

* Parents are encouraged to support their teams while showing respect for all players, coaches, officials, spectators, and other parents.
* Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desires to play their chosen sports. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
* Make sure your child arrives on time and with the right dress and (if relevant) equipment (knee pads etc).
* It is your responsibility to ensure your child can get to and from training, not the Club’s. The Club’s responsibilities begin and end at the training/match venue.
* Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
* Do not embarrass your child by shouting at players, coaches, officials, spectators or other parents. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
* Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
* Understand the rules of the game and support the officials on and off the playing field. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
* Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game. Never shout at your child at any time – it is destructive.
* Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport and give up much of their spare time to assist your child. Communicate with them and support them.
* Understand your child’s rights to play in an environment free from harassment and/or abuse in any form. Report any such incidents immediately to the Club welfare officer.