



Legal rights and responsibilities

Players

As a player you have the **right** to:

- a safe playing environment
- be treated with dignity and respect and not bullied or harassed on or off the field
- be treated fairly e.g. in team selection
- complain about inappropriate and unlawful behaviours irrespective of whether the behaviour is from your coach, your team mates or opposition teams
- a fair process – if you make a complaint or someone complains about you, you should not be harassed or bullied.

As a player/athlete you also have **responsibilities**. They include:

- following your club's Member Protection policy and codes of behaviour
- treating everyone involved in your sport – coaches, officials, other players etc. – with respect
- not harassing, bullying or using inappropriate language
- acting fairly and responsibly
- recognising people's personal space (i.e. not touching someone in away that makes them feel uncomfortable)
- allowing any investigation into complaints against you to occur without victimising the complainant or attempting to influence witnesses

Related links

- Players – Online learning in discrimination and harassment
- Players – Online learning in child protection
- Essence of Australian Sport
- Fair and safe behaviour flyer

Play by the Rules is supported by the Australian, state and territory governments.

The information on *Play by the Rules* is not intended as a substitute for legal or other professional advice.

© *Play by the Rules* www.playbytherules.net.au

Updated May 2011