



Deanshanger Athletic Football Club Constitution

*April 2015
Version 1.0*

*Deanshanger Athletic FC is proud to have been awarded
The FA Charter Standard Award for excellence in
provision of grassroots football in the community.*



CHARTER STANDARD

Table of Contents



Club Policy	3
1. Coaching staff:	3
2. Club membership:.....	4
3. Teams	4
4. Training.....	4
5. Club Kit, Club Colours:	4
6. Players:.....	5
7. Discipline	5
8. Reporting Results.....	5
9. Appeals	6
10. Parents/Carers or Spectators.....	6
11. Child Protection (in respect to Under 18's):	7
12. Equal Opportunity.....	7
13. Committee.....	8
14. Annual General Meeting	8
15. Dissolution	9



Club Policy



The club shall provide an environment for the improvement of playing standards, which includes football skills, game awareness and sportsmanship. Coaching staff will achieve this by attending various football coaching courses/seminars either organised by the club or independently arranged. Players must have the opportunity of improving their playing standards and achieving football recognition in terms of skill, game awareness and sportsmanship. The club will encourage the promotion of players and staff to achieve better standards of play, and the opportunity of managing and playing in the highest leagues. The club's ambition is to, encourage and promote skill and continually strive to the highest standards to be best. Most importantly it must be fun.

1. Coaching staff:

- 1.1. Coaching staff should hold a recognised coaching qualification issued by the Football Association under the F.A. Coaching and Education scheme in place at the time. (Managers Charter) In the circumstances where no coaching qualifications are held, coaching staff will be put through the club's coaching programme in place at the time.
- 1.2. At each age group there must be a manager and a assistant (if required). New manager(s) will be invited to attend an interview. The prospective manager will be given the opportunity to present his or her case on why they want to become a manager at Deanshanger Athletic. The prospective manager will be given an overview of the clubs policies and strategy in order to gain a full understanding of their duties.
- 1.3. The final decision to appoint a manager will be made by the executive committee following recommendation by the managers. A verbal decision may be offered to the prospective manager following the interview, and a formal written offer will be sent within 7 days of the meeting.
- 1.4. Must adhere to the policies of club at all times.
- 1.5. Are responsible for the behaviour of their players on match days.
- 1.6. Are responsible for arranging the treatment of injured players during the course of a football match.
- 1.7. Should enquire on the well being of any injured players as mark of respect to the opposition.
- 1.8. Are expected to attend meetings when scheduled. In the event that they are unable to attend scheduled meetings, he/she must notify the General Secretary, Vice Chairman or the Chairman by way of an apology. Failure to do so will render the manager absent from the meeting.
- 1.9. Who fail to attend three consecutive meetings without satisfactory reason will be referred to the disciplinary committee.





2. Club membership:

- 2.1. Players must be registered with the General Secretary of the club on the appropriate registration forms by 31 July and must accompany the registration fee.
- 2.2. The annual membership fee shall be notified. This will include, registration, insurance, hiring of training/playing facilities, The annual membership fee is due on 1 August each year.
- 2.3. A player shall not participate in a league match until the membership fee has been paid. This also includes any outstanding fees from the previous season.
- 2.4. Failure to pay membership fee will result in cancellation of membership and de-registration from the club.
- 2.5. Players that register mid way through the season will charged on a pro rata basis.
- 2.6. The Clubs year shall run from 1st June to 31st May.

3. Teams

- 3.1. The club will operate a First, Reserve, Under 18's and a Vets team as long as there are enough staff who are willing to dedicate time and effort in helping to improve grassroots football.
- 3.2. It must be encouraged that the better players, but also the most committed, should play in what is considered to be the first team.
- 3.3. It is in the clubs and players interest to run the best teams. It is important that the coaching staff liaise with each other regarding the development of players in order for those players to be given the opportunity of playing a better level of football. Football development is paramount importance.
- 3.4. During the close season, friendly games will be arranged for the selection of the better player(s) and or most improved player(s) to be selected for first team football.

4. Training

- 4.1. Coaching staff are encouraged to combine their resources/expertise and train on the same day/evenings where possible in the interest of player development.
- 4.2. Coaching staff is expected to educate and teach players how to think, not what to think. The player is more important than the game. The game is not the thing, the player is.
- 4.3. Coaching staff are expected to encourage players, teach players to sustain their interest and commitment and fix their minds on the important learning points, this is the foundation of the coach's success and the players progress.

5. Club Kit, Club Colours:

- 5.1. The Club colour is Royal Blue and will be used in all official league, cup and tournaments. In the event where both teams having the same or similar colours then an alternative strip may be used with agreement with the opposition and officials.
- 5.2. Teams will not have players name printed on the back of the shirts.
- 5.3. The kit, equipment shall be supplied by and be the property of the club.





6. Players:

- 6.1. Are encouraged to support each other but should not coach from the sidelines.
- 6.2. Are not to use foul and abusive language towards the players, Staff, opposition, or match officials under any circumstances.
- 6.3. Are to make sure that all membership fees etc are paid on time. Failure to do so may result with the player being suspended until such outstanding fees are paid to Deanshanger Athletic Football Club.
- 6.4. Are not to use illegal substances under any circumstances on the grounds of the Deanshanger Sports & Social Club this will exclude you from playing for the club until it is deemed fit you can return.
- 6.5. The club does not tolerate underage drinking.
- 6.6. Smoking in any kit that has been provided by the club for that day is not tolerated.

7. Discipline

- 7.1. The Executive Committee has the ultimate responsibility for all matters relating to the clubs disciplinary business. The executive committee is empowered to deal with any such matters; however, all executive committee decisions shall be reported at the subsequent committee meeting.
- 7.2. Each member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to attend all Executive Committee meetings and have one vote, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters appertaining to himself/herself or the club.
- 7.3. The Executive Committee may appoint a sub-committee as they may consider necessary, and may delegate all or any part of their powers to such committee.
- 7.4. The Executive Committee shall have the power to apply, act upon and enforce the rules/policies of the club, and shall have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the club, including any not provided for by the rules.
- 7.5. The decisions of the executive committee and or sub-committee shall be binding, subject to the right of appeal to the Executive Committee in accordance with rule 9.3
- 7.6. Coaching staff failing to be represented at a committee meeting shall be disciplined as determined by the executive committee, and failing to be represented at three consecutive meetings without satisfactory reasons being given shall be further dealt with as the executive may determined.

8. Reporting Results

- 8.1. Result sheets league or club should be fully completed showing the date of the match, names of the teams, result, goal scorers, referee's name and marking, and signed appropriately. It must be delivered to the General Secretary as soon after the match as possible, but no later than Monday evening following. It is not the General Secretary's responsibility to complete the form.
- 8.2. Any team submitting an incorrect result sheet will be fined £10.00 by the league.
- 8.3. All results must be telephoned to the league results line within 90 minutes of the match finishing.





8.4. Failing to submit correct result sheets and telephoning results, coaching staff will be fined the full amount of the league fine.

9. Appeals

- 9.1. Any dispute occurring between members of the club and the league shall be referred to the executive committee, whose decision shall be binding upon all parties, subject to rule 9.3.
- 9.2. Complaints must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded and must be logged with the General Secretary within seven days of the occurrence to which they refer.
- 9.3. A club member having received notification of a decision of the Executive Committee may appeal against the decision by logging particulars. The appeal must be addressed to the General Secretary and must be received by him within fourteen days of the posting of the decision. The result of the appeal shall be binding on all concerned.

10. Parents/Carers or Spectators

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. This club is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment. Winning isn't everything. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA, league or The FA:

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or County FA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.
- The local FA could impose a fine and/ or suspension on the club.





11. Child Protection (in respect to Under 18's):

Club statement:

To develop a positive and pro-active position in order to best protect all minors who play football for Deanshanger Athletic, enabling them to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment. To deliver quality assured child protection and provide a strong tutor network within the club in conjunction with support by NSPCC and the Football Association.

- Coaching staffs are required to attend a national Child protection and working with children course, where appropriate the club will subsidise part of the course fees.
- The child welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- All suspicious and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Introduce a system where children can talk to an independent person outside the club. This person must be given clear written guidelines about the incident and what action should be taken if abuse is discovered.
- Apply agreed procedures for protecting children to all managers/coaches. This will include:
 - Ensuring all managers/coaches have clear roles and responsibilities
 - The issuing of guidelines about action to be taken if abuse is disclosed or suspected

12. Equal Opportunity

Club statement:

To ensure that a quality service is provided to all who need it by recognising that people have different needs that may require different treatment. To ensure that no volunteer or participant receives less favourable treatment or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements, this cannot be seen to be justified. To comply with the Sex Discrimination and Race Relations Acts which prohibit both direct and indirect discrimination.

Deanshanger Athletic Football Club:

- Practice an equal opportunities policy and opens its membership to any organisation or person who support our aim and objectives.
- Seeks to promote equal opportunities and is actively committed to ensuring that no person within its involvement suffers discrimination because of disability, race, sex, colour, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, marital status, ethnic and or national origin.
- Will monitor and regularly review its practice and procedures to ensure that individuals are promoted and treated on the basis of their relevant merit and abilities.





13. Committee

The duties of the club shall be performed by a general committee consisting of the following officers and members who shall be elected at the annual general meeting.

- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Managers of teams, Up to six further members
- Should a position become vacant subsequent to the annual general meeting or, if within the rules as above, a further committee member is required, the remaining elected officers and members may appoint any person they consider suitable to the position.

The management of all Club assets and property shall be invested in the committee. It shall have the powers to:

- Appoint such sub-committees as may, from time to time, be necessary and shall receive reports and act on recommendations from such sub-committees.
- Should an outgoing committee have decided to constitute a social committee to manage fund raising and social functions, then members of that committee shall be re-elected at the A.G.M. This committee shall comprise a minimum of three members.
- Declare a seat vacant should a member absent himself from three consecutive meetings without satisfactory explanation or, in the view of the committee, be guilty of conduct contrary to the interests of the club.
- Cancel the membership of any child for misconduct. No fees will be refunded

14. Annual General Meeting

The annual General Meeting shall be held no later than 30th June each year. At least seven days notice will be given to all player members and /or in local publications and/or in such other manner as the committee shall decide suitable. All members shall be allowed to attend and all adult members during the year under review shall be entitled to vote. Those present may only cast votes. The business of the A.G.M. shall be:-

- To receive the annual report from the outgoing Chairman and/or Secretary.
- Receive the Treasurers Statement of Accounts.
- Elect the Club Officials and Committee.
- Nominations for committee members should be notified to the Secretary in advance of the meeting.
- Fix membership subscriptions.
- Receive, discuss and adopt, if vote so decides, amendments to the Club Rules and Constitution.
- Alterations to the Constitution require 2/3rd majority vote
- Discuss any other business



15. Dissolution

- A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the members present.
- The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the members of the Deanshanger Athletic Football Club Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- Any surplus assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be split evenly between the Deanshanger Sports & Social Club and Deanshanger Colts





All rights reserved. No part of the content may be reproduced, adapted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission of Deanshanger Athletic Football Club.

