



## PLAYER SUPPORT GUIDELINES

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CHARTER STANDARD  
COMMUNITY CLUB

The role that parents and spectators play in the life of a young footballer has a tremendous impact on their experience. At Malmesbury Youth FC (MYFC), with the help and support of the parents and spectators, we want to create an environment that is safe, enjoyable and exciting.

MYFC have adopted a policy, which, with parents and spectators help, will go a long way to creating this environment for our children. The key guidelines are:

1. No coaching of the children from the parents or spectators during training or matches. This just creates confusion and pressure for the children. If you want to coach then come and join us.
2. Over-excessive support and encouragement is strongly discouraged. Most people shouting at their children, from the sidelines think they are motivating their children. In fact, they are doing the opposite. They are creating a pressure filled atmosphere and environment that the children dislike.
3. Help your children by being their best fan. This means one to one encouragement and support. Tell them how good they are and will be in the future, even if they, or you, don't think so now.
4. Reduce pressure on them by asking how much they enjoyed the game rather than did they win.
5. Please don't criticize your child or any other child during a match. Positive comments help motivate the children. If you struggle with this walk away for a while.
6. Encourage your child not to be frightened of making a mistake, it doesn't matter. What matters is they enjoy themselves and they learn to play without fear.
7. Swearing or the use of offensive language is unacceptable and must not happen.
8. Please don't confront parents or spectators who demonstrate inappropriate behaviour. Report them to your coach. Other teams may not have our philosophy yet.
9. Please do not shout at or abuse any Referee or Assistant Referee in any way. If you feel you could do better please contact us and we will support your application to become a Referee.
10. Do take part in the "Soccer Parent" experience on the [www.thefa.com](http://www.thefa.com) website. You even get a certificate!
11. Please remember that the most important things in football are that our children are safe, they enjoy themselves and want to play again. Our feelings as parents and spectators are secondary to those of our children and if we remember this they might have a chance.