

## **Crusaders FC**

### **Spectators Code of Conduct**

Crusaders FC wish to create a welcoming, safe, family environment at Seaview. We also hope for a passionate, raucous and sporting atmosphere that encourages the team – indeed both teams. We encourage applause, cheering and non-abusive singing that will have a positive influence on the atmosphere and can contribute to the enjoyment and outcome of the match.

Crusaders FC are proud of its fans and their good behaviour, their passion and support they show for their team. The Club will, however, take steps to prevent people from behaving in a manner likely to jeopardize the safety and enjoyment of others, or to bring discredit on the club.

We are mindful of our obligations under the Northern Ireland spectator behaviour legislation and support the IFA's 'Football for All' programme and its 'Kick it Out' campaign against indecent, sectarian or racist chanting/behaviour. Any supporter who publicly disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone in a defamatory manner on account of race, colour, language, religion or community affiliation, ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation will be subject to investigation and may be evicted from the ground and face further sanctions.

If a crime has been committed the offence will normally be reported to the police. This includes the display of offensive banners.

If you or your fellow supporters hear any abuse of this nature, then please report it to the nearest steward or club official.

#### **Supporters are asked to refrain from:**

- using sectarian, racist, homophobic, sexually offensive or any other inappropriate language;
- violent conduct;
- the display of any racist or sectarian emblems or banners;
- Using foul, abusive or insulting language, gestures or threatening behaviour;
- throwing missiles of any sort
- entering the pitch area;
- behaving in a manner likely to jeopardise the safety and enjoyment of others;
- consume intoxicating liquor to such an extent that s/he is a nuisance to others and a danger to himself and others.

**Supporters should:**

- respect all players, team attendants and match officials;
- follow directions and instructions given by stewards and club officials;
- respect the supporters of other teams;
- report breaches of our code to a steward or club official;
- remember to observe the code both at Seaview and at away games;
- support Crusaders Football Club loudly and proudly and in a manner that offends no-one

All fans should note that under legislation relating to Spectator Behaviour at Sporting Events there are several activities which are deemed to be offences and can lead to fines or imprisonment.

- Throwing an article capable of causing injury can attract a fine of up to £1000
- Indecent or sectarian chanting can attract a fine of up to £1000
- Going on to the playing area can attract a fine of up to £1000
- Possessing fireworks or flares at a match can attract a fine of up to £1000 or a prison sentence of up to three months.
- Possessing alcohol on private hire vehicles on the way to sporting events can attract a fine of up to £1000 and/or a prison sentence of up to three months and the vehicle operator can also be fined up to £2500.

Visiting supporters are also to respect our Code of Conduct. All supporters should note that observing the Code of Conduct is a condition of your entry to the ground. Any person not observing the Code may be refused entry to the ground or ejected and face further sanctions.

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<sup>1</sup> This Code of Conduct also applies to supporters at away venues, travelling to and from games or on club-organised trips.