**Wakefield Athletic Juniors Football Club Membership Policy**

**1. Membership Eligibility**

1.1. Membership of Wakefield Athletic Juniors Football Club (hereinafter referred to as "The Club") is open to players, parents/guardians, coaches, and individuals interested in supporting The Club's objectives.

1.2. All members must adhere to The Club's constitution, policies, and guidelines. Details of these documents can be found on The Club website: <http://wakefieldathleticjfc.co.uk/documentation>

**2. Parental Behaviour and Child Welfare**

2.1. Parents/guardians are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and positive manner at all times, both on and off the field. By extension, this also applies to any friends or relatives of members who attend events organised by or involving The Club.

2.2. Any inappropriate behaviour by parents/guardians, including but not limited to verbal abuse, physical aggression, or harassment, may result in disciplinary action, including the possibility of their child being asked to leave The Club.

2.3. The Club is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all participants, and any concerns regarding child welfare should be reported to the designated Club Safeguarding Officer.

**3. Adherence to FA's Respect Policies**

3.1. All members must adhere to the Football Association's (FA) Respect policies, which promote fair play, respect, and good sportsmanship.

3.2. Members should familiarize themselves with the FA's Respect codes of conduct and guidelines, including those specific to players, coaches, parents/guardians, and spectators.

**4. Behavioural Issues and Disciplinary Procedure**

4.1. The Club operates a three-strike system for behavioural issues, aiming to address and rectify any misconduct or breaches of The Club's policies.

4.2. The disciplinary procedure is as follows:

* **First Strike:** A verbal warning will be issued, highlighting the specific behaviour that needs improvement.
* **Second Strike:** A written warning will be issued, emphasizing the need for immediate improvement and potential consequences of further misconduct.
* **Third Strike:** If the behaviour persists, the member may face suspension or expulsion from The Club, subject to a disciplinary hearing conducted by the committee. If the issue relates to a parent’s behaviour, this could lead to the child being asked to leave The Club.

**5. Reporting and Complaints**

5.1. Any member who witnesses or experiences inappropriate behaviour should report it to The Club Welfare Officer or another designated Club official.

5.2. Complaints will be treated confidentially and investigated promptly and fairly, following The Club's grievance procedure.

**6. Membership Termination**

6.1. The Club reserves the right to terminate or refuse membership to any individual whose behaviour is deemed detrimental to The Club's values, objectives, or the well-being of its members.

6.2. Termination of membership may occur as a result of repeated breaches of The Club's policies, failure to adhere to the FA's Respect policies, or any other serious misconduct.

**7. Amendments to the Membership Policy**

7.1. This membership policy may be amended by the committee of Wakefield Athletic Juniors Football Club, subject to a majority vote at a general meeting, with proper notice provided to members.

This membership policy is hereby adopted by the committee of Wakefield Athletic Juniors Football Club on 17 May 2024