



Hibiscus Coast AFC – Positive Sidelines Policy

Supporting All Our Players

At Hibiscus Coast AFC, we believe that developing confident, creative players starts with giving them the freedom to make their own decisions. During training, coaches guide players on how to make better decisions through games and activities that are repeated over time. On match day, however, both coaches and supporters must refrain from shouting instructions while the ball is in play. Players need space to think for themselves, make choices, and learn from each moment.

It can be frustrating to hear constant sideline instructions like “Pass!”, “Shoot!”, or “Find space!” when players haven’t had the chance to assess the situation or decide what’s best. By shouting instructions, we take away the opportunity for them to develop game awareness and confidence in their own decision-making.

We absolutely encourage positive encouragement and praise – an energetic, supportive sideline makes a huge difference! But please ensure that your calls do not instruct the players what to do.

Together, we can uphold the NRF’s *Love Their Game* message and help create an environment where all our players feel trusted, respected, and supported to play their best football. ❤️

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