

**Clarbeston Road AFC (Charity Number 1163455)**

**Anti-corruption and Bribery Policy**

**1. ABOUT THIS POLICY**

**1.1** It is our policy to conduct all of our business in an honest and ethical manner. We take a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and are committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships.

**1.2** It is a criminal offence to offer, promise, give, request, or accept a bribe. Individuals found guilty can be punished by up to ten years' imprisonment and/or a fine. As an employer if we fail to prevent bribery we can face an unlimited fine, exclusion from tendering for public contracts, and damage to our reputation. We therefore take our legal responsibilities very seriously.

**1.3** Any volunteer who breaches this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in expulsion from the Club.

**1.4** In this policy, **third party** means any individual or organisation you come into contact with during the course of your work for us, and includes actual and potential clients, customers, suppliers, distributors, business contacts, agents, advisers, and government and public bodies, including their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians and political parties, the Association and its employees (including its directors), officials of Clubs, Players, Area Associations, National Leagues, Match Officials, officials of other national associations, officials connected to the Association, FIFA, UEFA, or any other sporting governing body.

**1.5** This policy will be reviewed regularly.

**2. WHO MUST COMPLY WITH THIS POLICY**

**2.1** This policy applies to all persons working for us, including employees at all levels, trustees, officers, agency workers, volunteers, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives and business partners, sponsors, or any other person associated with us, wherever located.

**3.**  **WHAT IS BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION?**

**3.1** **Bribery** is offering, promising, giving or accepting any financial or other advantage, to induce the recipient or any other person to act improperly in the performance of their functions, or to reward them for acting improperly, or where the recipient would act improperly by accepting the advantage.

**3.2** An **advantage** includes money, gifts, loans, fees, hospitality, services, discounts, the award of a contract or anything else of value.

**3.3** A person acts **improperly** where they act illegally, unethically, or contrary to an expectation of good faith or impartiality, or where they abuse a position of trust. The improper acts may be in relation to any business or professional activities, public functions, acts in the course of employment, or other activities by or on behalf of any organisation of any kind.

**3.4** **Corruption** is the abuse of entrusted power or position for private gain.

**3.5** Specifically, you must not:

**(a)**  give or offer any payment, gift, hospitality or other benefit in the expectation that a business advantage will be received in return, or to reward any business received;

**(b)**  accept any offer from a third party that you know or suspect is made with the expectation that we will provide a business advantage for them or anyone else;

**(c)**  give or offer any payment (sometimes called a facilitation payment) to a government official in any country to facilitate or speed up a routine or necessary procedure;

**(d)** threaten or retaliate against another individual who has refused to commit a bribery offence or who has raised concerns under this policy

**4.**  **GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**4.1** This policy does not prohibit the giving or accepting of reasonable and appropriate hospitality for legitimate purposes such as building relationships, maintaining our image or reputation, or marketing our products and services.

**4.2** A gift or hospitality will not be appropriate if it is unduly lavish or extravagant, or could be seen as an inducement or reward for any preferential treatment (for example, during contractual negotiations or a tender process).

**4.3** Gifts must be of an appropriate type and value depending on the circumstances and taking account of the reason for the gift. Gifts must not include cash or cash equivalent (such as vouchers) or be given in secret. Gifts must be given in our name, not your name.

**4.4** Promotional gifts of low value such as branded stationery to or from existing customers, suppliers and business partners will usually be acceptable.

**5.**  **RECORD KEEPING**

**5.1** You must declare and keep a written record of all hospitality or gifts given or received. You must also submit all expenses claims relating to hospitality, gifts or payments to third parties in accordance with our expenses policy and record the reason for expenditure.

**5.2** All accounts, invoices, and other records relating to dealings with third parties including suppliers and customers should be prepared with strict accuracy and completeness. Accounts must not be kept “off-book” to facilitate or conceal improper payments.

**6.** **HOW TO RAISE A CONCERN**

**6.1** If you are offered a bribe, or are asked to make one, or if you suspect that any bribery, corruption or other breach of this policy has occurred or may occur, you must notify the Club Secretary or as well as notifying the FAW in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Code of Ethics, as soon as possible.

**Last reviewed/revised by the trustees of Clarbeston Road AFC on 14th November 2024**