

Sands United Individual Player Agreement



We really appreciate and thank you for your commitment to Sands and we will do the best we can to make your Sands United experience with us as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

Sands United is a unique way for bereaved family members to come together through a shared love of sport and find a support network where they can feel at ease talking about their grief when they're ready. It's also an opportunity to raise vital funds to help Sands achieve its vision of a world where fewer babies die and when a baby does die, anyone affected receives the best possible care and support for as long as it's needed.

We understand that playing for Sands United is part of how you honour and remember your baby, as it is for many volunteers and staff who work within the organisation. To ensure you have the best possible experience, this agreement sets out Sands' commitment to you and what Sands expects from you whilst participating in Sands United and as such acting as an representative for Sands across the UK.

In being part of Sands United we ask that:

- You consider the welfare of both you and your team mates, their families and supporters at all times. One of the fantastic things about Sands United is the peer to peer support offered, but there may be times when you or your team mates need a little more bereavement support and this is a very normal part of the grief process. If bereavement support is needed we recommend that in the first instance contact is made with Sands through the free [Sands Helpline](https://www.sands.org.uk/helpline) on 0808 164 3332 or helpline@sands.org.uk
- Sands United FC players, officials and supporters adhere to their team's rules, this agreement and where affiliated, their football association's code of conduct. These rules, agreements and codes exist to ensure everyone involved in football is playing their part in creating a positive experience. Your football association's code of conduct can usually be found online or by requesting it from them directly.

Failure to adhere to a governing body's code of conduct, team rules or this agreement will result in you being disciplined by any combination of the following: your amateur football association, your team and Sands. Failure to adhere to these agreement could result in you being required to have no further involvement in volunteering with Sands United or Sands.

- You understand that Sands will not tolerate racist, homophobic, sexist or any other discriminatory behaviour on or off the pitch, in any communications about or on behalf of Sands, including on social media and within team closed Facebook groups.

Sands is committed to:

- Helping you enjoy and find support within your Sands United team.
- Providing support and any training necessary for specific roles within the team e.g. manager/media/welfare volunteer.
- Providing bereavement support to you outside of the team as necessary, via our helpline, online community or Sands Befrienders as appropriate.
- Listening to you and react quickly to any worries or concerns you may have.
- Providing clear guidelines around the running of an effective and responsive team.
- Treating all players equally and fairly.
- Providing suitable insurance cover for all Sands United teams.
- Recognising and celebrating success.



As a volunteer for Sands, we ask you to commit to:

- Being a responsible and enthusiastic representative of Sands and understand that any actions you take reflect on Sands as an organisation accordingly.
- Ensuring that any communication undertaken about or on behalf of Sands promotes confidence and trust in the whole of Sands' work.
- Being open, honest and courteous to other players, Sands staff and volunteers.
- Following Sands' policies and procedures relevant to your role, including equal opportunities, safeguarding, fundraising, whistle-blowing, media, health and safety.
- Following reasonable requests by Sands United team managers and Sands staff.
- Maintaining regular contact with appropriate staff at Sands.
- Participating in training and meetings as necessary, which might include a team induction day.
- Enjoying your playing, but stepping away to put your own needs first if necessary at any point.
- Managing any team social media accounts in a manner that reflects the values of Sands and Sands United and adheres to the terms of service of each platform. Ensuring that all content posted on these channels does not risk damaging the reputation of the charity or could cause any offence or distress. Understanding that Sands reserves the right to take control of or close down any team account that breaks these rules.
- Only purchasing or playing in Sands United FC kit supplied by our official supplier (currently MDH Teamwear and Trophies) and to get in touch with the Sands United staff team (prior to taking any action) if for any reason this is an issue.

By doing this you will actively be contributing to the success of Sands in meeting its aims of raising awareness of the issues around baby loss; providing excellent bereavement support; improving the bereavement care received by parents and families, and promoting research to reduce the number of babies dying.

Declaration:

By ticking the box relating to this agreement on the Sands United Player Registration Form I confirm that:

- I have read and understood my nation's Football Association's Code of Conduct and I agree to abide by it.
- I understand that failure to adhere to my FA's rules, team rules or this agreement may jeopardise my involvement with Sands United and in turn my support of Sands.
- I agree to Sands storing my full name, email address, phone number and postal address throughout the time that I play for Sands United. I understand that I can opt out of some mailings, but there will be some mailings that it is essential that I receive as a Sands United player or team volunteers.
 - You can update your preferences or opt out at any time by calling our Supporter Care Team on 0203 908 5525 or by emailing supportercare@sands.org.uk
 - For more information about how Sands uses your personal information, please read our [Privacy Policy](#).

This is an honourable agreement and is not intended to be a legally binding contract between us and may be stopped at any time by either party. This agreement is not regarded by either party as an employment relationship.