



Austrian Ground Rules

1. General behaviour

- a. **Language:** German and English are the preferred languages to be spoken during all A-Team activities and events (trainings; matches; meetings; etc.);
- b. **Openness:** be open and encourage openness in others; have your say and be honest;
- c. **Confidentiality:** keep it in the team and have loyalty for each other; no gossip;
- d. **No excuses:** don't apologise for actions; get it right and be professional;
- e. **Patience:** if you are omitted, congratulate the selected players (your time will come);
- f. **Respect:** have and show respect for other team members;
- g. **Be present:** don't just turn up, make a contribution;
- h. **Fun:** enjoy yourself!

2. A-Team activities and events

- a. **Announcements and registration:** all Team/Squad activities and events (like training sessions; matches; meetings; etc.) including their location and planned start/finish times will be published on the ACA and SNASY websites and Facebook pages well in advance; check these websites regularly;
- b. **Cancellation:** If you cannot make an announced Team/Squad activity or event (or you expect to be late), you need to let the Team management staff know by sending a short mail via Whatsapp ideally at least one day in advance; Bad weather conditions will not automatically lead to a cancellation; unless not explicitly communicated by the Team management staff or on the websites, you are still required to turn up for all Team/Squad activities and events, regardless of the weather conditions.
- c. **Punctuality:** make sure you are on time for each announced Team/Squad activity or event. In case of practice sessions, this means you need to be fully dressed and prepared at the designated starting time of the session; If you have to leave prior to the end of the activity or event, let one of the coaches know on your arrival, otherwise everyone stays till the end;
- d. **Family and friends:** except during dropping-off and picking-up, family and friends are not welcome to attend or watch practice sessions, meetings and internal practice matches of the Team/Squad. During official friendly matches, family and friends are of course welcome to support you, however your place is with the Team/Squad at all times (this also applies in case you are a reserve player for the game).

3. Personal equipment

Each A-Team player is responsible for obtaining and using his or her own personal equipment:

- a. **Bat;** the Team management staff or the ACA cannot be held responsible for bats being broken by your own usage or bats being broken while being borrowed out to other players;
- b. **Compulsory personal protection:**
 - Helmet (to be worn at all times while batting and close catching);
 - Abdominal guard/box/"Hodenschutz" (to be worn at all times while batting; highly recommended to be worn while fielding as well);

- batting gloves;
- leg guards;
- outer thigh pad;

c. **Optional personal protection equipment** to make you feel safe and confident while batting and fielding, like inner thigh pad, arm guard, chest guard and shin guards (highly recommended to be worn while fielding).

4. **Mobile phones, social media and press**

a. **Mobile phones**, smartphones, tablets, etc. must be and stay switched off and be held out of sight during all Team/Squad activities and events (trainings; matches; meetings; etc.);

b. **Postings on social media** like Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, etc. regarding your personal involvement within the Team/Squad or the Team/Squad in general are strictly forbidden at all times;

c. **Talking to the press** is only allowed after approval by the coaching staff. In case of queries by the press, just refer to the Team management staff or the ACA.

5. **Fines and repercussions**

a. **First warning:** If you break any of the above ground rules, you will receive a first warning;

b. **Second and final warning:** In case of a second offence, you will receive your second and final warning;

c. **Suspension:** A third offence will lead to an automatic suspension from all Team/Squad activities; the Team management staff will let you know within one week about their next course of action, which may be removal from the Austrian Team/Squad.

Vienna,

(to be signed by all selected players)