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CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct identifies the standard of behavior, which is expected of all Club members, including players, coaches, parents, directors, officials, managers, volunteers and employees.

The ISC adheres to the CSA code of Conduct and Ethics. For further information please review the following document: <u>Canada Soccer code of conduct</u>

The Club is committed to providing a sports environment in which all individuals are safe, treated with respect and integrity. Members of the Club shall conduct themselves at all times in a fair and responsible manner. Members shall refrain from comments or behaviors that are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist. In particular, the Club will not tolerate behavior that constitutes harassment or abuse.

During the course of all Club activities and events, members shall avoid behavior, which brings the Club or the sport of soccer into disrepute, including but not limited to abusive use of alcohol and non-medical use of drugs.

It is the belief of the Club that all Club Members will conduct themselves in a manner that:

Respects officials, opponents, representatives of other soccer clubs, parents, players and coaches, promotes fair play and skill development, enhances the reputation of the Club, and adds to the enjoyment of the game for all participants.

The Club expects that the standards of behaviour outlined in this Code of Conduct will be followed by everyone.

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in the member losing privileges that come with membership in the Club, including the opportunity to participate in activities.

Harassment

Harassment by nature is disrespectful and therefore considered unacceptable by the Club. Harassment is defined as a comment, conduct or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. The OSA's policy deals with harassment that fits -the definition "to disturb persistently; torment, bother continually; persecute; to trouble by repeated attacks or hostilities.

Harassment is generally the result of an ongoing pattern of unwanted or unacceptable behaviour however it can also result from a single isolated act such as: physical assault, sexual touching or sexual assault, unwanted comments about a person's race, religion or sexual orientation.

Harassment is defined as any unwelcome advances, for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct when:

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- 1. submitting to or rejecting this conduct is used as the basis for making decisions which affect the individual or
- 2. such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's performance or 3. such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment

Clubs should first attempt to resolve the issues that violate their code of conduct in a manner that is specified by the club for Code of Conduct infractions. Codes of Conduct should not deal with more serious behavior and the Club must direct these concerns to the Provincial Harassment Officers should they fit into the harassment definition provided.

Abuse

The Club is required to ensure the safety of all members. If you have a reasonable belief to suspect that a child is or may be suffering or may have suffered abuse or neglect, you are to directly report this to Police and to the Children's Services. All allegations or suspicions of inappropriate behaviour that you learn of or witness first-hand, you must report it to the Safety Officer of ISC. Please contact the Club by phone or email to get the contact name of the Active Safety Officer on staff. A child is defined as any person 16 years of age and younger.

Fair Play

The notion of *Fair Play* is a universally understood principle that underpins all sports. Without fairness, sport loses its meaning and value, and worse, it can become a harmful experience for its participants. International Soccer Club believes that Fair Play is more than just following the rules — it is a **philosophy** grounded in **respect for others** and for the **spirit of the game**.

Fair Play encourages a collective commitment to uphold the values and life lessons that sport teaches — not only to children, but to coaches, officials, and parents alike. It's about making the right choices, both on and off the field. Through sport, we learn to define what is right, to pursue excellence, and to grow together as responsible, respectful members of society.

As such, all members of the International Soccer Club — players, coaches, officials, and parents — are expected to follow the codes of conduct outlined below, which reflect our shared commitment to these values.

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Fair Play Code for Players

As a player, I pledge to:

- 1. Participate because I want to, not just because others expect me to.
- 2. Play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
- 3. Control my temper fighting and inappropriate language spoil the game for everyone.
- 4. Respect my opponents and recognize their efforts.
- 5. Be a true team player and support my teammates.
- 6. Understand that winning isn't everything.
- 7. Focus on having fun, improving skills, making friends, and doing my best.
- 8. Acknowledge good plays and performances by both my team and my opponents.
- 9. Respect and accept decisions made by coaches and officials, understanding they are there to help me.

Fair Play Code for Coaches

As a coach, I pledge to:

- 1.Be reasonable with scheduling, recognizing that players have other interests and obligations.
- 2. Teach players to play fairly and respect the rules, officials, and opponents.
- 3. Ensure equal instruction, support, and playing time for all players.
- 4. Never ridicule or yell at players for mistakes instead, build their confidence and enjoyment.
- 5. Ensure that equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate for the players' age and abilities.
- 6. Be a role model by demonstrating positive behavior and generous praise.
- 7. Continually upgrade my coaching skills and knowledge to better support my players.

Fair Play Code for Officials

As a match official, I pledge to:

- 1. Modify rules when necessary to suit the skill levels and needs of the players.
- 2. Use common sense to preserve the spirit of the game, especially for young players.
- 3. Lead by example in behavior, both on and off the field.
- 4. Praise good play by both teams when deserved.
- 5. Be consistent, objective, and courteous in enforcing the rules.
- 6. Promote fair play at all times.
- 7. Create a positive, supportive environment for all participants.
- 8. Stay informed on officiating best practices and child development principles.
- 9. Enjoy the game, be approachable, and strive to improve with every match.

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Fair Play Code for Parents

As a parent or guardian, I pledge to:

- 1. Never force my child to participate in sport.
- 2. Support my child's participation for their enjoyment, not mine.
- 3. Encourage my child to play fairly and resolve conflicts respectfully.
- 4. Emphasize effort and improvement over winning at all costs.
- 5. Celebrate my child's growth by offering praise for effort and good sportsmanship.
- 6. Never ridicule or yell at my child for mistakes or losing.
- 7. Set a positive example by applauding good play by all participants.
- 8. Respect the decisions and integrity of officials.
- 9. Support efforts to eliminate verbal and physical abuse from youth sport.
- 10. Appreciate and support volunteer coaches and staff who make soccer possible for our children.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

- I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices, remembering that players have other interests and obligations.
- I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents. I will ensure that all players receive equal instruction, support and playing time.
- I will not ridicule or yell at my players for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' ages and abilities.
- I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and will endeavor to set a good example.
- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills. I will remember that it is a privilege, not a right, to coach.

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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

- I will participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coaches want me to. I will play by the rules of soccer and in the spirit of the game.
- I will control my temper. Fighting, "mouthing off and 'trash talking* (verbal abuse) spoils the activity for everybody.
- I will do my best to be a true team player.
- I will acknowledge all good plays/performances of my team and of my opponents.
- I will remember that winning isn't everything that having fun, improving skills, Making friends and doing my best are also important.
- I will acknowledge all good plays/performances those of my team and of my opponents.
- I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. will accept their decisions and show them respect.
- I will respect my team's opponents.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that children play soccer for their own enjoyment, not for mine.
- I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game/event.
- I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud good plays/performances by both my child's team and their opponents.

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- I will never question the officials' judgment or honesty in public.
- I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
- I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteer coaches who give their time to provide sport activities for my child.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS

- I will remember that children play soccer for their own enjoyment, not for mine.
- I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will remember that players are not professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.
- I will respect the official's decisions and I will encourage participants to do the same.
- I will never ridicule a player for making a mistake during a competition. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- I will condemn the use of violence in any form and will express my disapproval in an appropriate manner to coaches and league officials.
- I will show respect for my team's opponents, because without them there would be no game.
- I will not use inappropriate language, and I will not harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS

- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my officiating skills.
- I will make sure that every player has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of their ability, within the limits of the rules.
- I will avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of a player(s). I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.

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- I will not permit the intimidation of any player either by word or by action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, athletes, spectators or myself. I will report unacceptable conduct to the appropriate people.
- I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward a team, coach or individual player.
- I will handle all conflicts firmly and with dignity.
- I accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young players. I will be open to discussion and contact with the players and coaches before and, after the game.
- I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
- I will follow the rules of the game and will consider the appropriate age and skill level of the players.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LEAGUE ORGANIZERS

- We will do our best to see that all children are given the same chance to participate regardless of gender, ability, or ethnic background.
- We will make sure that all equipment and facilities are safe and match the athletes' ages and abilities.
- We will make sure that the age and maturing level of the participants are considered in program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.
- We will remember that play is done for its own sake and make sure that winning is kept in proper perspective.
- We will make sure that coaches and officials are capable of promoting fair play as well as the development of good technical skills and we will encourage them to become certified.
- We will distribute to guardians a Code of Conduct to coaches, athletes, officials and parents (Taken from First Steps, First Kicks publication by the Canadian Soccer Association, and Fair Play from the. Canadian Center for Ethics in Sport)