



Coaches Code of Conduct

This handbook explains how Coaching Staff members are expected to conduct themselves before, during and after any WSSC event.

Anyone who does not meet the standards of behaviour risks losing the many privileges that come with being a member of WSSC's Programs. All members should make certain that they understand fully the information contained herein. Coaches, assistant coaches, and managers are required to sign as having read and understood this document.

VISION

WSSC is committed to excellence in behaviour, performance and attitude. We shall strive for this by:

- Competing, coaching and managing to the best of our ability in a positive spirit of fair play and sportsmanship
- Treating our teammates, opponents, and all Program staff, volunteers and officials with equality and respect
- Representing our Soccer Club in the best possible way
- Establishing and building upon a tradition of success for which we can be proud

Guiding Principles for "Soccer for Life"

Player-centered practises and games
Enjoyable experience for all participants
Inclusive, ethical, and respectful environment for all participants

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Coaching Staff (coaches, assistant coaches, managers)

To ensure an inclusive, safe, fair, and enjoyable environment for all Soccer participants, coaches have been given special responsibilities and are therefore expected to act with professionalism and courtesy at all times. There is an OSA Board approved "Code of Conduct" for Ontario Coaches contained in the following document:

Commitment:

- A coach's commitment is to develop and improve the performance of each player and the team physically and mentally
- Coach and manage in a fair and sportsmanlike manner and prepare players for a maximum performance on the field
- Take responsibility for the conduct of all team members including players and parent/spectators
- Follow and enforce the WSSC Dress Code (uniform, shin guards, soccer shoes, and no jewellery) and all other policies contained in this handbook
- Read, agree to and sign the WSSC Member Agreement and Waiver
- Attend all Program meetings, clinics and events as required
- Maintain close liaison with the WSSC Technical Divisional Coach and League Convenor
- Provide feedback to the WSSC League Convenor
- Document and administer discipline for minor (level 1) infractions (Technical Divisional Coach)
- Report any major conduct infractions immediately to the WSSC Technical Divisional Coach or Head Coach (complete an infraction report if required)

- Assist the WSSC Technical Divisional Coach and League Convenor in the administration of the team including, team balancing, uniform allocation, and picture distribution
- Assist the Program Administrator with tournament registration procedures as required (competitive teams only)
- Read, know and follow WSSC Code of Conduct and other regulations contained in this handbook
- Adhere to other roles and responsibilities as reasonably required of a coach, assistant coach, manager or other team staff member

Know Your Subject:

A Coach must be thoroughly acquainted with FIFA Laws of the Game, keep attuned to the sound principles of Coaching and coach players to win within the laws of the Game.

A person may only be designated as the Team Head Coach for a maximum of two outdoor teams at any one time.

Respect:

Coaches must respect all human beings (i.e., all team members, parents, opponents and officials) at all times. Coaches, opponents, and officials must be treated with respect by players and parents. WSSC is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and maintains a Zero Tolerance policy. It does not permit discriminatory practices; disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist remarks or actions have no place in soccer and will not be tolerated.

Enthusiasm:

Coaches must be enthusiastic and positive. They must ensure that they are generous with their praise when deserved. They are expected to be punctual and well prepared for practices and games.

Personal Conduct:

A Coach must maintain the high standards of personal conduct and fair play. Coaches should never be involved in any circumstance which is offensive or suggests sexual connotations.

To create an inclusive environment for participation and manage your risks as a coach you should:

- maintain control at all times (i.e., don't lose your temper, harass or bully others)
- balance competition with participation
- follow fair and consistent player selection processes
- consider flexible coaching practices (i.e., to include people with varying abilities)
- make sure you use appropriate coaching techniques (i.e., do not use punitive measure or over training to improve performance)
- maintain appropriate boundaries (i.e., avoid being alone with a child or young person)
- maintain appropriate physical contact (i.e., when demonstrating a skill)
- avoid transporting players, particularly children
- make sure any electronic communication with players is about team matters only
- do not provide players with alcohol or drugs
- seek permission when taking images of players, particularly children
- take action over any inappropriate behaviours (i.e., harassment or suspicions of harm against a child)

To assist team staff to meet your responsibilities, WSSC may:

- Screen coaches and/or request that you undergo a Working With Children or other police check (required by provincial legislation for traveling teams)
- Explain your duties and responsibilities as a coach, and expected code of behaviour as contained within this handbook
- Support you to complete training to improve your skills and knowledge of soccer (i.e., promotes a positive coaching community and develops coaches through programs, clinics and mentoring)
- Provide you with guidelines to support you in your role as contained in this handbook

WSSC Code of Ethics

I agree to treat all players equally and recognize that as a Recreational Coach, the sport is intended to be FUN for all participants.

I accept the sport as a whole; understand that the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club maintains a Zero Tolerance policy, that certain words or actions will absolutely not be tolerated under any circumstances and will result in disciplinary action by WSSC.

I agree to abide by WSSC rules and policies; and, by the published rules and policies of the Ontario Soccer Association and other governing bodies.

Coaching is a privilege and I welcome the opportunity to provide leadership in areas of soccer skill development, good sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork.

I agree to support the WSSC soccer development model and participate in all Club activities to the best of my ability.

In the event of my inability to comply with this Code of Ethics, I may be forced to relinquish my Coaching and/or Club Membership privileges.