

# COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Directors of The Winchester Soccer Club is concerned with the conduct of all coaches during practice and games at all levels.

We want to ensure that games/practices are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game/practice should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.

## **Coaches should....**

- Provide a physically and emotionally safe environment for practices and competition.
- Exemplify honesty, integrity, fair play, and sportsmanship regardless of the impact they might have on the outcome of the competition.
- Maintain a professional demeanor in their relationship with athletes, colleagues, referees and the public and treat them with respect and dignity.
- Be committed to the education of their athletes and should encourage academic achievement.
- Follow safe training and conditioning techniques.
- Remember that competition should be healthy and enjoyable for all and that well-being and development of athletes take precedence over the win/loss record.
- Accept that they do serve as role models and there must be congruency between their actions and words.
- Contact between coach, parents/guardian and players should only be done using the phone number, address and/or email address that was entered into the player/family profile. Any change in communication should be agreed upon by parent/guardian and the coach.

## **Coaches conduct before, during and after games.....**

- Should be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Prior to the start of each game coaches should make sure that nets are secure and report any field hazards to the referee and opposing coach.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
- During the game you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him or her to calm down.
- During the game you are also responsible for the conduct of the parent/guardian of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.

- During the game, do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently after the game. If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to the league. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.
  - Referees - especially young and inexperienced ones - are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments.

## **Coaches Pledge**

*I pledge to teach and guide the players as stated above. I will always recognize my responsibility to, and influence on, both the players and the parents. I will be a positive force. I promise as coach to remember I am responsible for setting and maintaining the tempo and behavior patterns of my team. I will focus on the development of the players and let the results take care of themselves.*

*I understand that if I do not follow the Code of Conduct as described above, I will be subject to removal from coaching.*

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Winchester Soccer Club Philosophy Statement**

*Adopted at Winchester Soccer Club's Annual Meeting on November 5, 1997. Don Sutton,  
President.*

The Winchester Soccer Club's purpose is to promote and enhance the game of soccer for the citizens of Winchester. It operates under the general philosophy of inclusion, and a belief that vigorous physical exercise, team sports and healthy competition benefit the physical and moral development of all involved in the sport. The mission of the WSC is to build and operate a soccer program that:

- Provides an equal opportunity for all players to develop skills to whatever level they are capable and willing.
- Provides a forum for the development of good teamwork and sportsmanship practices by all participants to include the players, coaches and spectators.
- Provides an environment for coaches to develop the skills and techniques needed to teach the game of soccer to those who want to learn.
- Provides an environment for referees to develop the skills and techniques needed to referee the game of soccer to those who want to learn.

The WSC will be operated in accordance with its established Articles of Organization and By-laws using the following general policy guidelines:

- Be recognized as a broad-based community organization that exists for the benefit and enjoyment of Winchester soccer players.
  - In order to reach the highest level of enjoyment, take responsibility for educating WSC participants in the principles of the sport of soccer and demand the highest ethical standard of behavior for all; club officials, coaches, players, parents and spectators.
  - Operate in an open, democratic, friendly manner that ensures all members have the information necessary to understand the WSC's structure and operating philosophy, be regularly informed of operating decisions made by the Club's governing board, and have mechanisms available for parents to be able to get answers or register suggestions or complaints about the WSC's activities.
  - Recognizing the diversity of needs within the WSC, individual programs may be different, yet comparable, in providing opportunity for all and will be evaluated for their impact on other programs under the WSC umbrella.
-