

**FORT ST.JOHN SOCCER CLUB
COMPETITIVE TEAMS PROGRAM
PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS**

Below is the FSJSC Development/Competitive Teams Code of Conduct for our FSJ Northern Striker Players. This has been developed for review by all parents and players who are interested in trying out and playing for Development/Competitive Teams in the Indoor/Outdoor Season. Please review this document and be aware that you must be in agreement with the conditions of the Player Code of Conduct if you wish to participate in the FSJSC Competitive Program. Upon being chosen for a Development/Competitive team, the player, parent and coach will be required to sign off on this form.

COMMITMENT

- Provide 100% effort when at all practices and games.
- Come to train with the proper rest, focus and be prepared to listen to coaches' instructions.
- Players must be prepared to participate in the training sessions outlined by the Team Head Coach.
- Players must be prepared to participate in out of town tournaments and the Regional\Provincial Championships (usually out of town) if their teams qualify during the indoor or outdoor season (see section on TRAVEL).

EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

- Wear proper soccer attire for training sessions (i.e. no tank tops, non sport shorts\socks). Ensure that you wear proper equipment including shin pads, soccer boots (no runners), socks for practice or game sessions. This includes ear, eye, nose, tongue, belly button and lip rings, watches necklaces or bracelets. Players should also ensure that they bring sufficient fluids (water bottles) and clothing appropriate for weather conditions that could be encountered (layers of clothing such as tracksuits, sweatshirts, etc). Players not wearing the right attire, equipment or uniform will have their game playing time restricted.

ATTENDANCE

- Players are expected to be suited up and ready to go **at the start** of scheduled practice times, games and team events. Players not meeting this expectation will have their game playing time restricted.
- If you cannot attend a practice\game you are required to call the Head Coach\Assistant Coach or Team Manager and provide a reason why you are unable to attend. Players will only be excused from attending practices\games for serious injuries\sickness or personal family matters. Those players with lesser injuries\sickness and depending on extent of the injury\sickness will still be asked to attend practices\games to assist coaches\team with conducting practices where possible and participate in team discussions on skill development, strategies and tactics to remain current with team development.
- Players are expected to be responsible for organizing transportation to practices and games.

- Players are expected to be responsible for managing their personal time to ensure they meet both their school and Competitive team commitments in regards to homework and attendance at practice and games.
- Players that miss 4 practice\game sessions will have a review with the Competitive Team Coordinator, their parent and team coach regarding their continued participation on the Competitive Team based on the circumstances communicated.

COMMUNICATION

- Coaches\Managers primary means of communication with player and parents will be through emails. Phoning will only be used as a secondary means of communication. It is the responsibility of the player and parents to have a functioning email address that is checked 3-4x per week by both player and parent. Players will be required to provide both a personal and parent email address for communication. Players must also provide a home phone number as secondary means of communication.
- The team coach will have a team meeting at the start of the season outlining the team's plans for the upcoming season for practices, games, tournaments and fundraising events. Coaches\Managers will strive to provide team updates at least 1.5 weeks in advance of any change in team events (practices, games, tournaments, fundraising) but no later than 1 week in advance where possible. Players\parents will be responsible to check regularly with the team manager for any updates.

COMPETITION, PLAYING TIME AND MAINTAINING POSITION ON TEAM

- The selection of teams will be done by the Team Head Coach. Players will be evaluated in various areas such as but not limited to ball skills, drive, and attitude, knowledge of game, gamesmanship, sportsmanship, coach, and team support.
- Continued participation on the team and playing time will be dependent on individual player's performance throughout the season. Selection to the team is not guaranteed for the entire season. Players must demonstrate regular & increased performance in the areas of skill development, commitment, drive, attitude, sportsmanship, coachability & team support on a weekly basis. Coaches will have discussions with players on a regular basis with the objective of increasing their performance and giving them the opportunity to retain their position on the team.
- There will be no minimum guaranteed playing time for any of the team players. Playing time will be based on individual players weekly performance as outlined above during both games, practices and while traveling.
- Players will be asked to play on the team they have been chosen for unless the player or parent have valid concerns why the player should not be placed on a particular team. Before a players request to play on a different team than the one they have been chosen for can be granted a meeting will be required with the Competitive Team Coordinator to discuss the concerns raised. The meeting will be used to determine if concerns can be addressed to allow player to continue to play with the team they have been chosen for.

SPORTSMANSHIP

- Realize, accept and practice the principle that the Competitive Team's reputation is built not only on ability but also on sportsmanship, courtesy, and manners of each player.

- Report all injuries to coaches, special medical conditions (such as asthma) or extenuating circumstances (such as lack of sleep or personal family issues) that may affect the player during training.
- Players are to refrain from speaking to officials. **DO NOT** openly question official's judgment and their calls of play. Players are to refrain from commenting on decisions during the play of the game. Only the team captain may discuss calls with the official during the game but only with respect and in a courteous manner.
- Any comments regarding officiating by a player\parent or staff will be taken seriously and may require action to be taken by the Coaching staff and\or FSJSC.
- The use of abusive language or profanity, humiliating remarks and/or gestures of ill temper is grounds to be benched for as long as the Team Head Coach feels necessary to curb negative behavior.

PLAYER DISCIPLINE/BEHAVIOUR

- Use of illegal substances (drugs, alcohol, or tobacco if under 19) or possession of a substance will not be tolerated and is cause for immediate dismissal.
- Persistent irresponsible and disrespectful behavior to teammates, coaching\manager staff, parents or others is cause for dismissal.
- Destruction of property or violation of provincial or other law is cause for dismissal.
- Failure to comply with any and all team rules (curfew, attendance, dress code, schedules) is cause for disciplinary action. Persistent failure is cause for dismissal from the team.
- Opposite gender in players rooms are grounds for immediate dismissal with players being sent home at parent's expense.
- No dangerous games or games that can cause injury to people are to be conducted during any team activity (practice, games, tournaments, etc) and can be grounds for dismissal with players being sent home at parent's expense. If there are games which are dangerous with the potential to cause harm to people and other people are observing and those people do not report this to the Team Head Coach they too can be dismissed and sent home.
- Mandatory curfew and lights out will be set by the Team Head Coach and will be enforced. If curfew rules are not followed then the Team Head Coach has the ability to bench that player.
- Issues in regards to the Player's Code of Conduct will be dealt with immediately and any discussions with players on serious behavior\performance issues will be passed on to parents immediately.

FSJSC retains the rights to impose additional penalties for any violation of the items outlined above.

TRAVEL AND RESPECT FOR OPPOSITION AND FACILITIES

- Competitive teams will be conducting extensive travel throughout the year in the BC and Alberta areas. Players and their parents must have the financial ability and be prepared to participate in team fundraising events to offset travel costs. Teams will strive to keep travel expenditures at a minimum to avoid financially overburdening parents with excessive travel costs.

- Players will require that their parents be prepared to assist and share in fundraising activities and travel responsibilities such as driving, chaperoning and team activities while out of town. It is key to the success of Competitive Teams that all parents share equally in all team related activities where possible. Overuse of individual parents can lead to parent burnout and reduced travel opportunities for the Competitive Team.
- Competitive Teams are representing FSJSC and are expected to respect not only the opposition but also all the opposition's facilities. This includes cleaning up the bench area after all games and keeping the opposition facilities in the state they were found. Disrespect of the opposition or their facilities will not be tolerated.

TRAVEL (GUIDELINES, ACCOUNTABILITY, STRUCTURE, PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES)

- On the field and off the field professional behavior will be expected and monitored at all times. Teams will be traveling with a goal of success. A professional attitude, appearance and manners are expected at all times and will be enforced.
- A travel dress code will be enforced by all teams when traveling. Players will be expected to wear appropriate clothing in good condition. Inappropriate or suggestive clothing is not acceptable. We consider our players to be high performance athletes representing FSJSC and expect them to act accordingly. FSJSC Competitive team's official tracksuits will be worn while traveling out of town.
- All players will be staying at the same hotel unless given special permission by the Team Head Coach.
- There will be 3 players and 1 adult from the same gender unless given written permission from the parents in a room.
- Any players leaving hotel property at any time must have a parent chaperone and given permission from the Team Head Coach.
- Any uses of hotel facilities (pool, fitness room, etc.) to be cleared by the Team Head Coach and will always have an adult supervisor.
- All players are to remain on hotel property unless approved by the Team Head Coach and to abide by all hotel and team travel rules as outlined by the Team Head Coach.
- All players are to be accompanied by at least one teammate at all times when moving around the hotel property. No players are to walk around the hotel property unaccompanied even for very short distances for whatever reason. This to be strictly enforced and is for the safety and security of the players.
- Players are to understand that the primary reason for travel is to play soccer, be competitive and develop their skills. Extracurricular activities will be at the discretion of the Team Head Coach and will ensure that player performance is not compromised due to poor rest/sleep, inadequate meals or over exertion at other non soccer related activities.

Player Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Competitive Head Coach _____ **Date:** _____

Coach Signature: _____ **Date:** _____