



Medicine Hat Soccer Association

Coach Code of Conduct

This year as a **COACH** I agree to...

1. Remember that young athletes have other interests and obligations and may not be able to attend every game or practice.
2. Teach my athletes to “**Honor the Game**”. I will teach and reinforce fair play, respect for the letter and spirit of the rules, respect for the officials and our opponents.
3. Ensure that all athletes are treated fairly when providing instruction, lending support and allocating playing time...**regardless of their ability!**
4. Not ridicule or yell at my athletes 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 praise publicly and, when necessary, correct privately (i.e. **away** from the team and with a parent if felt necessary).
5. Ensure that equipment and facilities are safe. This includes ensuring that all athletes are wearing shin guards and have removed all jewelry.
6. Get recommendations from a physician and support from a parent before allowing a player to participate following a serious injury (i.e. any injury that keeps players out for greater than one week). I will ensure a letter of consent from a physician and/or parent is received before allowing the player to participate again in practices or games.
7. Obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching education/skills on a regular basis.
8. Remain open to feedback from players, parents, the association and/or the director responsible for my program.
9. Resolve team/player conflict by...
 - a) Talking directly to the player(s) in question **away** from the rest of the team,
 - b) Talking directly with the player(s) and their parents in question **away** from the rest of the team if the initial behavior has not changed, and/or
 - c) Setting up a Parent/Coach/Player Meeting with Mini/Minor Director if steps “a” and “b” do not resolve the issue in question.
10. Complete a mid-season feedback session with the parents/players on the team I am responsible for. Feedback will be open to what parents/players would like to see stopped, started, or continued within their team. I agree to forward this information to the association once it has been compiled.
11. Speak in a manner that positively promotes and supports our program, the association, association volunteers and association staff.
12. Follow the **24-Hour Rule** when expressing concerns to players, to parents, to any of the coaching team, association volunteers or staff.

