



# **Guidelines between Coaches/Adults and Children**

The Glace Bay Soccer Club is committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all children participating in our programs. Coaches play a crucial role in shaping young athletes' experiences, and their conduct should always reflect the values of fairness, respect, and integrity. To ensure a positive and safe environment, we have established the following guidelines for appropriate conduct between coaches and children:

#### Maintain Professionalism:

- a. Treat all children with respect, dignity, and fairness, regardless of their skill level or background.
- b. Use appropriate language and tone when communicating with children.
- c. Avoid any form of favoritism, discrimination, or bullying.

#### **Establish Boundaries:**

- a. Maintain appropriate physical boundaries with children. Avoid physical contact that could be misinterpreted or make the child uncomfortable.
- b. Respect personal privacy and ensure appropriate changing and showering facilities are available and supervised.
- c. Never engage in any form of physical or verbal abuse, harassment, or inappropriate behavior towards children.

# **Provide Equal Opportunities:**

- a. Encourage and support all children, regardless of their abilities, to participate and improve their skills.
- b. Avoid singling out or publicly criticizing individual children. Provide constructive feedback and encouragement in a respectful manner.

## Communicate Effectively:





- a. Maintain open and clear lines of communication with children and their parents or guardians.
- b. Ensure that all instructions and feedback are age-appropriate, respectful, and aimed at improving their skills and understanding of the game.
- c. Listen attentively to children and address any concerns or issues they may have promptly and appropriately.

### Be a Positive Role Model:

- a. Demonstrate good sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for officials, opponents, and teammates.
- b. Encourage teamwork, cooperation, and mutual respect among children.
- c. Promote a healthy and balanced approach to competition and emphasize the importance of fun and enjoyment in soccer.

### Safeguard Children's Welfare:

- a. Comply with all child protection policies and guidelines set by the Glace Bay Soccer Club.
- b. Report any concerns or suspicions regarding child welfare to the appropriate club authorities.
- c. Continuously update your knowledge and skills through relevant training and education programs.

#### Maintain Professional Distance:

- a. Avoid engaging in personal relationships with children that could be perceived as inappropriate or compromising.
- b. Do not share personal contact details or communicate with children outside of the official club channels or designated communication platforms.

These guidelines are intended to provide coaches with clear expectations for their conduct and interactions with children. By adhering to these guidelines, coaches contribute to creating a safe, supportive, and positive environment for young athletes at the Glace Bay Soccer Club.