

STRATHMORE SOCCER

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT



Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct, it equally applies to other members of the coaching team (managers, trainers, scorekeepers, assistants, and parent volunteers). It is assumed that these people act in cooperation with one another to construct a suitable and supportive environment for the athletes.

It is the intention of this document to promote *fair play and respect* for all participants within the Strathmore Soccer Association community. It is required that all coaches read and understand the Coaches Code of Conduct. It is expected that coaches observe and follow all the principles contained within this code of conduct and manage themselves in a respectful manner that will not negatively impact the players, the parents, the officials, Strathmore Soccer Association (SSA) or themselves.

1. I will treat everyone fairly within the context of the activity regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. I will work to create a positive experience for players and help to make it *fun*.
3. I acknowledge that coaches may be viewed as role models. I will consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of coaching.
4. Players do not participate in soccer for my benefit; *I coach for their benefit*.
5. I will instruct players to play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
6. I will teach players that doing one's best is more important than winning. Players will be offered genuine praise and encouragement for competing fairly and working hard.
7. I will applaud good plays by all players, our team and the opponents. I will not be critical of, or embarrass any player, including opposition players.
8. I will not criticize or question the referee's judgement. I recognize that officials are being developed in the same manner as players. If I disagree with a call or lack thereof, I will request clarification from the officials in a respectful and tactful manner.
9. I will not yell, taunt, threaten or inflict physical violence upon any player, parent, referee, official or spectator at any function or activity.
10. I will not use vulgar language. I will not make racial, ethnic or gender related slurs or comments at any time at any function or activity.
11. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from soccer.
12. I will ensure that activities being undertaken are suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes.
13. I will treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly.

STRATHMORE SOCCER

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT



14. I recognize that players have many competing demands and pressures from school, family, friends, sports, religion, etc.
15. I will ensure that players have a safe environment in which to play the game by ensuring that objects are removed from the field and that spectators pick up their litter.
16. I will support a sports environment that is free of alcohol, drugs or tobacco. I will refrain from their use at all soccer events, activities, or functions.
17. I will communicate all concerns regarding inappropriate behaviour to the SSA.
18. I recognize that I am in a leadership position and understand that I am accountable for any notice of default offences from the league officials, as I have been provided a coaches guide to field procedures and processes.
19. I will show respect for all players, parents, spectators, officials and myself.
20. I will conduct myself in a respectful and positive manner at all facilities and functions.
21. I will provide SSA with a Criminal Records Check as required by the organization.

I have read and understood the above Coaches Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its guidelines. I understand that if I cannot abide by this Code of Conduct that I may be asked to leave the activity. I also understand that I may be subject to further disciplinary action. This agreement remains in effect until such time that I am no longer coaching for this organization.

There is a mandatory 24 hour "*Cooling Off Period*" required before taking up a question or concern about the parents or team situation with coaches or managers. This provides an opportunity to remove the emotion from the issue and to resolve it in a calm manner. Team members and officials are not required to deal with an upset or emotional parent unless the 24-hour *cooling off period* has been reserved.