

Woolwich Youth Soccer Club Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct establishes a clear set of guidelines for the coach, player and parents/guardians. Its primary goal is to help ensure that soccer is a fun, positive and enjoyable experience. Our Code of Conduct is based on the concept of fair play, defined by four basic principles:

1. Respect for the rules
2. Respect for the referees and their decisions
3. Respect for all participants, including teammates, coaches and opponents
4. Maintaining self-control at all times

It is a condition of continuing Club membership that all participants understand and follow this Code of Conduct when participating in any Club activity. Please keep this Code of Conduct as a reference.

Player Code of Conduct

- I will play soccer because I want to, not because others want me to.
- I will play by the rules of soccer, and in the spirit of the game.
- I will control my temper. I will not fight, "mouth off" or use bad language.
- I will respect my opponents.
- I will be a team player.
- I will remember that winning isn't everything – that having fun, playing fair, improving my skills, making friends and doing my best are the most important.
- I will acknowledge all good play – those of my teammates and of my opponents.
- I will accept the decisions of coaches and referees and show them respect.

Games and Practices

- I agree that practices and games are equally important.
- I will arrive at the field before practices and games according to the standards set by my coach.
- If I cannot make a game or practice, I will notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance so that arrangements for substitutes can be made.
- I realize that players who attend practices may get priority for game starting lineups, which will be based on factors including attendance at practices, player's position, effort, and attitude.

My Uniform

- When wearing the uniform I will remember that I am representing the WYSC.
- At practices I will wear appropriate attire, such as a comfortable shirt and shorts.
- I will wear shin guards and appropriate footwear at all games and practices.

Discipline

- At all times I will show respect for coaches, referees, teammates, and opposing players.
- Infractions that occur during the game are governed by the Laws of the Game and will be decided by the Referee. The result may be a Caution (yellow card) or Dismissal (red card), in which case there may also be further action by the league Discipline Committee.
- Certain serious infractions (e.g. Referee Assault) will result in a Discipline Hearing convened by the Ontario Soccer Association or their delegate, and could lead to a worldwide suspension from soccer, and a fine being levied by the OSA. Payment of the fine is my responsibility.
- At his or her discretion, the team's coach will handle infractions that occur at times other than during a game.

Coach Code of Conduct

- I will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
- I will ensure that all players receive equal instruction and support.
- I will adhere to the Club Rules.
- I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, referees and our opponents.
- At all times I will respect parents, players and game officials.
- I will work in cooperation with referees for the benefit of the game.
- I will be selective in the amount of instructions I give players during the game. I will let the players play.
- I will make sure that equipment/facilities are safe and match the players' ages and abilities.
- I will be reasonable when re-scheduling games and practices, remembering that the players and their families have other obligations.
- I will be on time and prepared for games and practices.
- I will obtain proper training and upgrade my coaching skills and knowledge of the game, according to the standards of the Ontario Soccer Association and/or the Club.
- I will inform parents/guardians of any injuries their son/daughter may have suffered.
- I will dress appropriately at all games and practices, so that I present a professional image and can be easily identified.
- I will ensure that my team, their parents and fans, understand that the team may be penalized for their inappropriate behavior.

Parent Code of Conduct

- I will remember that my child plays soccer for his or her benefit, not for mine.
- I will not give instructions to players -- that is the coach's role.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game.
- I will make my child feel like a winner by offering praise for competing fairly and doing their best.
- I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- At all times I will support all players on the team.
- I will remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud good plays by both my child's team and their opponents.
- I will never question the referee's judgment or honesty.
- I will support all efforts to eliminate verbal and physical abuse from the game of soccer.
- I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteer coaches, who give their time for the benefit of my child.
- I will make sure that my son/daughter arrives for scheduled practices and games at the time designated by the coach.
- I realize that the team can be penalized for my behavior. If required, I must obey a request by a referee or from the team's coach to leave the vicinity of the field.
- I am responsible for my child at all times during participation in WCSA events.

Resolving Problems

If you are upset, we recommend you wait 24 hours and then determine if you wish to further pursue an issue. If so, talk to your coach privately. If you are unable to obtain satisfaction, please contact your Convener and then the VP.