

North Polk United Soccer Club Coaches Code of Ethics and Conduct

Purpose:

This Code of Conduct has been developed to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional, ethical, and moral behavior from that which is detrimental to the development of the sport of soccer. The term “**Coach**” shall include but is not limited to the Head Coach and/or Assistant Coach (es).

Responsibilities to Players

- Coaches must never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
- Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written rules and within the spirit of the game of soccer at all times.
- Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
- Coaches should not tolerate inappropriate behavior for players regardless of the situation.
- Coaches should be a positive role model and set the standard for sportsmanship.
- Demands on a player’s time should never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals and/or other activities the player may be active in. Coaches should keep sport in proper perspective.
- Under no circumstances should coaches authorize or encourage the use of medicinal or performance enhancing drugs. Players should be directed to seek proper medical attention for injuries and at no time should a player be put at risk by returning from injury prematurely or by being forced to play while injured.
- Coaches should continue their own education in the sport in order to be able to educate the players in technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level.
- Coaches must complete and submit a Risk Management Form prior to the beginning of each soccer year (soccer year runs from August 1st to July 31st).

Responsibility to State Association and Member Organizations

- Adherence to all approved Member Association rules and policies are mandatory and should never be violated. It is the responsibility of every coach to know and understand these rules.
- Any problems that cannot be resolved between coaches should be submitted in writing to the NPU Director of Coaches.

Responsibility for “The Laws of the Game”

- Coaches should be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the laws of the game of soccer. Coaches are also responsible to

ensure that their players understand the intent as well as the application of the laws.

- Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the laws of the game.
- Coaches are responsible for their players' actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
- If coaches permit, encourage, or condone performance, which is not in the letter or spirit of the laws, the coach is derelict in their responsibility to players, Member Organizations, state associations and the sport worldwide. The coach must strive constantly to teach good sporting behavior.

Responsibility to Officials

- Officials must have the support of coaches, players, and spectators. Criticism of officials undermines their purpose in the game.
- Officials should be treated with respect before, during, and after the game. Professional respect should be mutual and there should be no demeaning dialogue or gesture between official, coach, or player.
- Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the NPU Director of Referees.

Game Day and Other Responsibilities

- Coaches' behavior must bring credit to NPU and the sport of soccer.
- Coaches shall exhibit a respectful attitude towards players, officials, spectators, opposing players and coaches. Verbal abuse or physical assault is unethical and shall be punishable by the NPU Disciplinary Committee.
- Coaches should use their influence to control the behavior of their players, parents, and spectators.

Compliance

I, the undersigned coach, understand and agree to abide by the policies, procedures and rules of NPU and associated organizations. I understand that I am responsible for the actions of my team, its players, parents and supporters. I agree that I can be placed in bad standing with NPU if I, or persons associated with my team violate any one of the rules, policies and procedures.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____