



# East York Soccer Club

## COACHES' RESPONSIBILITIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

- I hereby pledge to follow the Coaches' Code of Ethics.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing environment for my players. This includes ensuring all players wear shin pads and have removed all jewellery before going on the field.
- I promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
- I will try to organize practices that are fun & challenging for all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will do my best to know the rules of soccer and teach these to my players.
- I will use coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I'm a youth coach, and that the game is for children.
- I will treat officials and other coaches with courtesy, good faith and respect.

### **Do Your Homework**

Even the youngest players are going to lose respect for a coach who can't tell the difference between a direct and indirect kick. If you've never played soccer yourself, you need to do some homework.

Commit the rules to memory. Learn what skills are important to teach. Get some basic strategy. And don't rest on your laurels just because you're already knowledgeable about soccer. Another thing a coach needs to provide is consistency with rules. Here are some rules you may want to think about including in your team by-laws:

- Don't be late to practices or games.
- No talking when I'm talking.
- No back talk.
- No goofing off during practice.
- Treat team mates with respect.
- Good sportsmanship in the game and during practice.

## **Be Prepared**

If you can, enlist the help of another parent or older sibling as an assistant. Not only will this help if you can't make a game or practice, but it's sometimes a lot easier to break down the kids into two smaller groups. The more enthusiastic they are, the more they're going to learn. Of course, once it's game time they can play forever. Don't forget to make that a big part of practice.

## **COACH'S BOUNDARIES / LIMITATIONS**

- Shall never be alone with a player.
- Shall not be responsible for transportation to/from practices/games/tournaments.
- Shall not be responsible for water or snacks.
- Shall be a role model—no drugs/alcohol/smoking or abusive language at practices/games/tournaments.
- Shall comply with the Dress Code as defined by the Club (wear East York Apparel as supplied).
- Shall ADHERE to OSA and Club policies.
- Shall embrace Club values, principles, and policy as per Club Constitution.
- Shall demonstrate the ability to set and maintain standards for players (ie: respect, self-discipline, fair play).