



CODE OF CONDUCT **TEAM OFFICIAL**

The Athlete/Coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches perform a critical function in the personal and athletic development of their players. The Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) of South Simcoe United FC (hereinafter referred to as the “Club”) has developed this Code of Conduct to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional and ethical behaviour from that which is detrimental to the development of the sport of soccer. (The term “Coach” shall include, but is not limited to, Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager and Trainer).

The Club expects all Coaches to conform to the following code of conduct:

- I will conduct myself in the best interests of the Club, putting the Club and player interests ahead of any personal or team interests. I will ensure I support the Club and its activities.
- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
- I will be reasonable in my demands on the players’ time, energy and enthusiasm. I will be aware that they have other interests and obligations, including school and will conduct and organize training sessions in a manner that ensures academic success.
- I will never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
- I will teach my players that the rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
- I will never engage in harassment or physical abuse of team members, game officials, or opposing teams. I will support all efforts to remove such abuse from sporting activities. (Harassment takes many forms but can generally be defined as behaviour, including comments and/or conduct which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual, or group of individuals, or which creates an uncomfortable environment).
- I will develop team respect for the ability and judgment of officials and opposing coaches and players.
- I will remember that athletes need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise, lead by example and provide all feedback in a constructive and positive manner.
- I will conduct a reasonable inspection of the playing field and of the equipment before each game or practice.
- I will not knowingly let an injured player take part in a game or practice session without the advice of a physician.
- In age appropriate circumstances, following practices and/or games, I will release players only to parents, adult family members or other responsible persons.
- I will project an image of health and cleanliness in personal habits and appearance, e.g., I will refrain from smoking while coaching and refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages when working with athletes or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- I will at no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with any player registered on a Club team. This includes requests for sexual favours or threat of reprisal for the rejection of such requests made to players or their parents.



- I acknowledge that I must declare any conflict between my obligation to the Club and to other parties. Furthermore, if I am receiving any form of payment, or benefit for coaching a SSU team, I must immediately disclose the source and nature of payment or benefit to the Board of Directors.
- I will assume complete and final responsibility for my team's finances and any indebtedness.
- I will submit to a police background check, including the vulnerable sector search.

I further understand that I not only represent my players and team, but also the Club, in games and tournaments and will conduct myself accordingly. I understand that the Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Team Trainier, Team Officials and Parents will be held accountable by the Board for our actions and behaviours throughout the season. I further understand that the Club will monitor my behaviour and will take appropriate action to uphold this Code of Conduct. Members who are sanctioned under this policy may also be subject to the disciplinary rules of the League they play in, the Huronia District Soccer Association and the Ontario Soccer Association.

I agree to the following terms:

1. I agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct.
2. I acknowledge that the Club may take disciplinary action against me, if I breach the above Code of Conduct. (I understand that the Club is required to implement a complaints handling procedure in accordance with the principles of natural justice, in the event of an allegation against me).
3. I acknowledge that disciplinary action against me may include suspension of coaching privileges and dismissal from the Club.

I, _____ accept the above rules as written and will do my best to abide by them.

Signature

Date

Name – please print

Team (e.g. 2001 Girls)

Revision Date: April 2010