



Coach Commitment and Code of Conduct



This document is applicable to the team Head Coach and Assistant coach.

As a coach of a high performance athlete it is important to understand the coaching role encompasses basic requirements, organized under three principles. They are: Setting a good example; keeping players safe; ensuring that all registrants have a positive developmental experience.

Here are some of the core commitments you are adhering to as a NRSP coach:

- An (11) eleven month (Jan – Nov) soccer training program.
- Attending, on time, training up to three times a week plus one game.
- Potential for multiple competitions to be held on weekends from May to October.
- Attending, all coaches and club meetings.

Setting a good example

- The coach's example is powerful. NRSP coaches in all contact with players, parents, officials and coaches should strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct. Coaches should always adhere to the Laws of the Game.
- Players should never be yelled at, lectured or ridiculed for making mistakes or losing a game. Coaches should be generous with praise when it is deserved (winning is only part of it).
- Coaches should avoid any conduct which could be construed as physically or verbally abusive.
- Coaches should completely refrain from verbal dissent during a game or practice.

Keeping players safe

- Coaches should have the safety of the players as their first priority at all times.
- Coaches should check players' equipment and playing facilities frequently. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of players.
- During a game, and in an absence of medical advice, coaches should err on the side of caution in permitting an injured player play or return to play.

Creating a positive experience

- NRSP wishes to ensure that games and practices are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences.
- During the game, the coach is responsible for the sportsmanship of the players. If a player is carded or is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, the coach should remove the player from the game.
- Coaches should explain acceptable behavior to players and parents at a preseason meeting. Encourage parents to make positive comments about good play by either team and prohibit them from yelling at players and the referee.
- A good environment should have a developmental mindset as its core.

The following Code of Conduct will help ensure that coaches put the players and program above self-interests while coaching NRSP teams. The performance of coaches is not measured in wins and losses, but rather in what players learn in terms of technique, sportsmanship, and fair play. By accepting a position as a team or staff coach with the NRSP a coach agrees to abide by the following Code of Conduct. I understand and accept that failure to adhere to this code may result in suspension, dismissal from the team, and/or dismissal from the program.

Coach Code of Conduct:

As a coach with the NRSP I shall:

- Treat all players fairly and without discrimination of any kind, or for any reason.
- Treat other team coaches and officials, players, supporters, spectators, NRSP club officials and staff with respect at all times.
- Respect the referee and assistant referee's and never audibly dispute a decision, or otherwise show dissent, criticize, harass, assault or intimidate a referee, or assistant referee.
- Perform my assigned duties to the best of my ability at all times.
- Treat all visiting coaches, team officials, players, supporters, club officials, spectators and visitors with respect at all times.
- Abide by all of the referees' decisions regardless of whether I agree or not.
- Be a Role Model for my players at all times.
- Maintain team discipline to the best of my ability at all times.
- Facilitate the resolution of any dispute in accordance with club policies.
- Not use electronic media such as texting, emails, websites, Facebook, Twitter, Tumbler, YouTube, Instagram etc. or any other form of communication / social media to criticize, harass or embarrass the NRSP, other team coaches, players or officials, my team, my players, referees or club officials.
- Use only NRSP supplied e-mail to communicate directly with a player on my team for only the purposes of communicating team information or programming support and another club coach (eg. assistant coach), TD or director will be copied in.
- Encourage my players to respect the play of their opponents.
- Teach my players "Fair Play".
- Ensure that all players get adequate playing time as dictated by OSA fair play policy.
- Ensure that I am prepared for all practices and games.
- Notify the appropriate club official of any situation that I feel may cause embarrassment to my team, the NRSP or District officials.
- Abide by all rules, policies and directives issued by program officials and staff.
- Attend all NRSP sponsored coaches training and meetings.
- Do everything in my power to portray a positive image of the NRSP.
- Refrain from using my cell phone during training sessions and games.
- Not participate in team or club activities while under the influence of drugs, or alcohol.
- Refrain from using cigarettes, or other tobacco products in the presence of my team.

I have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by and support this NRSP Coaches Code of Conduct.

Coach/Assistant Coach Name: _____

NRSP Team: _____ **Date:** _____

Coach/Assistant Coach Signature: _____