



# Coaches Code of Conduct (Competitive Program)

The Erin Mills Soccer Club's Competitive Program focuses on the development of the players in the following areas:

- (i) skills & technical ability;
- (ii) tactical knowledge;
- (iii) physical fitness; and
- (iv) social and mental/ psychological development.

Our program is intended to be implemented in the best interest of youth players in an atmosphere of wholesome community participation with an emphasis dedicated to helping children enrich their lives and become good and decent citizens in the community. The Club strives to inspire youth players with the fundamental principles of teamwork and fair play, while having a focus on fun and physical development.

**By signing a Coach Registration Form and becoming a coach for The *Erin Mills Soccer Club*, I agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:**

1. I am representing the Club, my community and my team and agree to act accordingly at all times.
2. I will learn and know the Laws of the Game and read, understand and abide by the Club's Constitution, By-Laws, Policies & Procedures and Rules & Regulations and shall always support and uphold them.
3. I understand that being a coach is a position of trust. Therefore, I will be a positive role model for my players and will maintain my personal integrity and dignity at all times.
4. I will create a sports environment that is free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco and I will refrain from their use at all regular league and play-off games, exhibition games, practices, training sessions and other events. I will never coach a game or conduct a practice or training session under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
5. I will never swear, use profanity or make obscene gestures, or engage in any inappropriate behavior or conduct, at any time.
6. I will always remember that my players are involved in competitive soccer for fun and enjoyment of the game as well as athletic development. I will do my best to keep the game fun and enjoyable. I am a youth coach and understand that the game is for the children, not the adults.
7. I will always strive to have a positive attitude and provide players with positive reinforcement for trying hard, playing fair and doing their best, regardless of the outcome of the game.

8. I will not yell at any player in an abusive manner for making a mistake. I will provide constructive criticism and instruction for the purpose of player development. I will not tolerate any physical or verbal abuse in youth soccer.
9. I understand that winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. I will place the well-being of every player above my personal desire to win. I will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
10. I understand that being a coach means being, first and foremost, a teacher. I will teach my players basic skills, techniques and strategies, and will give all my players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self- esteem at practice and in games.
11. I will always strive to display good sportsmanship and fair play, and will encourage the same from my players, colleagues, opponents, parents and spectators.
12. I will treat my players in a fair and equal manner. I will stress that teamwork and being a team player are more important than individual goals.
13. I will be respectful of parents, treat them fairly and with dignity. I will establish and use the 24-Hour Rule to address any difficult situations and seek assistance from the other team officials or a Club Director, if necessary.
14. I will strive to provide every player with fair playing opportunities based on their technical skills, tactical knowledge, physical fitness and social mental preparedness, as well as their level of commitment to training and player development.
15. I will know and abide by the Club's Privacy Policy and NOT to disclose any personal information concerning a player or a parent to anyone in contravention of the Club's Privacy Policy.
16. I will report any racism, or any physical, mental or sexual harassment of any kind involving a player, coach, administrator, or member of the Club and abide by the OSA's Harassment Policy.
17. I acknowledge that the Game is intended to be free of any discrimination of any kind and I agree to abide by the Ontario Human Rights Code at all times while carrying out my duties as a Coach for the Erin Mills Soccer Club.
18. I will establish a training program that reflects the level of competition in which the team will compete that is consistent with Club standards and will encourage individual players to participate in the Club's Advanced Development Program on days that there is not a team training session. If external training programs are proposed, then I will ensure that they have been approved by the Rep Director.
19. I will encourage players to play as a call-up on any other Club Team, if requested.
20. I will maintain proper record-keeping re: player information (team roster, medical concerns/ injury authorization, email address, emergency numbers for parents) on hand for practices and games and inform the Rep Director of any exceptional medical circumstances.

21. In the event of injury, I will ensure that an injury report form is completed with a copy for the player, the Club and for team records.
22. I will ensure that e-mails regarding any difficult team/ player issues are copied to the Rep Director and to ensure that the tone and content of any e-mails is professional and appropriate and is respectful of all participants, especially any players who may have access to the e-mail.
23. I will maintain an open line of communication with my players and parents. I will explain goals and objectives for the team, as well as the rules of the game and the policies of the Club, whenever requested or necessary, to the best of my ability.
24. I will ensure that a team budget is presented to and approved by the parents at the beginning of each season and that a financial report of all expenditures is provided them following the season.
25. I will maintain confidentiality of any personal information that relates to players and/or parents and abide by the Club's Privacy Policy.
26. I will inspect all equipment & fields on a regular basis to ensure the safety of my players.
27. I will ALWAYS wear my club apparel at ALL games and practices.
28. I will make sure that all players are ready and dressed to play (shirt tucked in, no jewelry, proper shoes, shin pads are MANDATORY, no plaster casts, and eyewear must be properly securing with eyeglass strap).
29. I will respect the referees and game officials and their authority during every game. I will never dispute, challenge or excessively argue any decisions made by them, or confront any referee or league official at the field before, during or after the game. Whenever necessary, I will take the time to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a referee or league official.
30. I acknowledge that this Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Erin Mills Soccer Club and I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I may be will be subject to disciplinary action by the Club or the League in which my team competes that could include, but is not limited to the following:
  - a) Warnings & Written Reprimands
  - b) Fines
  - c) Suspensions (Game(s) or Season)
  - d) Removal as a Coach
31. If a situation arises which calls for interpretation of this Code of Conduct, I acknowledge that the Club will take into account the best interest of each athlete, all members, the League, the Erin Mills Soccer Club, and the integrity of the game. Subject to OSA's Published Rules, any decision by the Club's Board of Directors will be final.