



Player Release Policy

The Erin Mills Soccer Club recognizes that Competitive Team Coaches are faced with difficult decisions from time to time with the management of their teams. This policy is intended to ensure that any decision to release a Player is fair and reasonable to all affected parties. Releasing any player from a team may only be done in accordance with the following principles and procedures:

1. Every youth player has the right to play for a competitive team provided they meet the team's expectations in terms of technical skills, tactical knowledge, physical fitness and social skills.
2. All Coaches should provide each player with a semi-annual performance assessment based on the Club's standard form and provide appropriate feedback to the Player concerning areas in need of development.
3. If a Player does not meet the Team's minimum technical standards, the Coach must ensure that the Player receives appropriate guidance concerning reasonable technical expectations, proper development support, and reasonable time for the Player to achieve any such expectations.
4. A Player may be released if they do not meet the Team's minimum technical standards, provided that the Coach has fulfilled their obligations described above in terms of proper assessments and development support.
5. A Player MAY NOT be released, at any time, based upon any grounds prohibited by the Ontario Human Rights Code, including but not limited to race, religious beliefs, family status, disability, or sexual orientation.
6. A Player MAY BE released based on the serious misconduct of the player, following appropriate corrective action, if the improper conduct negatively affects team unity, brings the Team/ Club into disrepute, or poses a danger to the player, their team-mates, match officials, or opposing players/ team officials.
7. A Player MAY BE released if they have not paid the necessary registration fees or any associated team fees, provided that adequate notice and support is provided by the Coach/ Club.
8. A Player may only be released by a Coach if the decision is approved by the applicable Zone Director of Coaching and the Club's Business Manager.

Player Release & Player Books:

9. If a Player is released, every effort should be made by the Coach with the support of the Club's Technical Staff to identify an alternative playing option for the Player within the Club.
10. To effect a player release, the Coach and the Player's parents must sign a Player Release Form to be delivered to the Club's Competitive Coordinator for processing with the District Association.
11. The Player Book is the property of the Player and must be delivered to the Player's parents or legal guardian when a player is released. Player Books may only be withheld if any monies are due and outstanding to the Club.

Parental Misconduct:

12. A Player may not be released, at any time, based on the actions of a parent. Issues with parents should be addressed directly with the parent by the Team Officials, with support from the Zone Director of Coaching and/ or the applicable Competitive Director.
13. Coaches dealing with problem parents are expected to take reasonable measures to correct poor parent behaviour to defend the atmosphere and cohesiveness of the Team and should insist that ALL parents comply with the Parents Code of Conduct.
14. Team Officials should work together to conduct one-on-one meetings with problem parents, if necessary, and full team parent meetings may be held to discuss issues and resolve parent problems at the team level.
15. If Team Officials are unable to resolve parent conflicts, they should refer the matter to the applicable **Competitive Director** for guidance and assistance to mediate the issues of parental misconduct.