



# Player Code of Conduct

## Purpose

This Code of Conduct was formed to promote soccer among youth players in a safe, healthy and challenging environment that promotes integrity and sportsmanship amongst coaches, managers, players, game officials, parents and spectators.

The primary purpose of the Erin Mills Soccer Club is to provide an environment where youth players can learn and enjoy the game of soccer, through the development of a player's skills, attitudes, and abilities, fitness and athleticism.

As a Player for the Erin Mills Soccer Club, the following values and standards of behavior that will assist you to develop and maximize your capacity.

## Obligations toward the Game

A player should:

1. Make every effort to develop their own sporting ability, in terms of skill, technique, tactics, fitness and stamina.
2. Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if the desired result has already been achieved.
3. Set a positive example for others, particularly for younger players and supporters.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship and time-wasting.
5. Practice the principles of fair play: integrity, fairness, and respect. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, equally.
6. Always have regard to the best interests of the game and all participants, especially when publicly expressing an opinion about the game or other participants.
7. Not use inappropriate language during games or practices, on or off the field.
8. Be respectful and not argue with the coaches, the referees, teammates, opponents, or spectators for any reason.
9. Always conduct themselves with honor and dignity and be mindful of the fact that they represent the Club and the soccer community at large.

## Obligations towards the Team

A player should:

1. Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help the team performing at its highest level as a team.

2. Resist any influence that might, or might be seen to, bring into question commitment to the team.
3. Refrain from the use of any alcohol, non-prescription drugs, or tobacco.
4. Refrain from any harassment by words or conduct directed towards anyone that is offensive, derogatory and that would likely undermine their self-esteem.

## **Respect for the Laws of the Game and Competition Rules**

A player should:

1. Know and abide by the FIFA Laws of the Game, the Published Rules of the Canadian Soccer Association, the Ontario Soccer Association and the Club and the Rules and Regulations governing any competition.
2. Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques.
3. Attend any disciplinary hearings, if required to attend.

## **Respect towards Opponents**

A player should:

1. Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators and game officials with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game.
2. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents.
3. Control their temper and resist the temptation to retaliate at all times in any competition.

## **Respect towards the Match Officials**

A player should:

1. Accept the decision of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid foul, abusive, or offensive words or actions that may offend or mislead a Referee.
3. Show due respect towards the Match Official.

## **Respect towards Team Officials**

A player should:

1. Be "coachable" and listen and abide by the instructions of your Coach and Team Officials, during practices and games, or other outings provided they do not contradict the spirit of this Code.
2. Show due respect towards the Team Officials of opposing teams.

## Respect of Facilities

A player should:

1. Adhere to the policies of all facilities including: water only (no other beverage or food) on artificial turf; no pets anywhere at schools or other fields that do not allow them; no wet shoes in gyms; wear field appropriate footwear, no parking in prohibited areas.
2. Not interfere with another group's permitted use of a facility before or after the time allocated to your team.
3. Place disposable packaging, water bottles and other garbage or recycling in containers provided, or if none are available, take them for disposal at home.

## Player's Dress Code

A player should:

1. Comply with Law 4 relating to equipment & uniforms and understand that a complete uniform is required to play in a game and jerseys must always be tucked in.
2. Always wear their Club uniform at games and practices, consisting of:
  - Club Uniform Jersey (for Home or Away Games); or
  - Practice Jersey (for practices or training)
  - Club Uniform Shorts
  - Club Uniform Socks
  - Proper footwear
  - Shin pads
3. If you are travelling as a team to represent the Club at a national or international competition, players should wear a dress shirt and black dress pants.

## Games and Practices

A player should:

1. Regularly attend practices and games and notify the coach or team manager in a timely manner if they are unable to attend a game or practice.
2. Arrive at practices early enough to be ready to train when the practice is scheduled to begin.
3. Show up for games One (1) hour before game time at the time and location listed in the game schedule or as designated by the coach.
4. Understand that the following factors will be taken into consideration when determining playing time, positional play and starting line-ups:

- technical skills and abilities;
- tactical knowledge and awareness;
- physical fitness;
- social and mental preparedness;
- first touch and positioning on and off the ball;
- the technical and tactical needs of the team in any given game situation;
- regular attendance at practices and training sessions;
- level of motivation, commitment and coachability;
- level of awareness, ability and willingness to execute the team's tactical strategy and formation at any given time in a game.

I have read, understood and agreed to this Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Player

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Player

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

In the absence of a signature, by registering with the Club, every EMSC Competitive Player (indoor or outdoor) acknowledges and agrees to uphold the values and standards outlined above in this Code of Conduct.