

Western Spirit Football Club

Policy 001 – Codes of Conduct

Player's Code

- Play for the love of the game and not just to please parents and coaches.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team - your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the official during a break or after the game.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent, are all unacceptable behaviours.
- Co-operate with your coach, Team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.

Coach's Code

- Remember that children play for the fun and enjoyment and that winning is only a part of their motivation.
- Never ridicule or yell at players for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Be reasonable in your demands on your players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Teach your players to follow the rules.
- Whenever possible, group players to ensure that everyone has a reasonable chance of success.
- Avoid over playing the talented players. The just average players need and deserve equal time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents and for the judgments of officials and opposing coaches.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or playing.
- Keep informed of the latest coaching practices and the principles of children's growth and development.

Parent's Code

- Remember that children play football for their enjoyment, not yours. If a child is reluctant to play, encourage but do not force them.
- Focus on the player's effort and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Assist in setting realistic personal goals related to his/her ability.
- Encourage children to always play according to the laws of the game.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by both teams.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from all sporting activities.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show your appreciation of volunteers, coaches, officials and administrators - without them, your child could not participate.

- Encourage children to recognize the value of an honest effort so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.

Administrator's Code

- Involve mature young people in the planning, leadership, evaluation and decision-making related to our sport.
- Give all children equal opportunities to participate.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules suit the age, ability and maturity level of players.
- Provide appropriate supervision and quality instruction for all players.
- Remember that children participate for enjoyment. Do not over-emphasize awards.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour, skill development and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.

Official's Code

- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of children.
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, fair, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all participants.
- Emphasize the spirit of the game, rather than errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes, which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and knowledge of children's growth and development.

Spectator's Code

- Children play organized sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
- Applaud good performance and efforts by your team and the opponents.
- Congratulate both teams upon their performance regardless of the games outcome.
- Respect the officials' decision and at all times demonstrate appropriate social sporting behaviour.
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake during a game. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from all sporting activities.
- Show respect for your teams opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Encourage players to play by the rules and the officials decisions.