Greater Grand Forks Soccer Club

CODE OF CONDUCT

Participating with the Greater Grand Forks Soccer Club summer competitive program is a privilege which requires athletes to uphold high standards of citizenship, conduct, and appearance that are appropriate for the athletes who represent the GGFSC and the community of Grand Forks. To participate in a club activity, parents/guardians and athletes must sign this code and accept the terms, conditions, and rules set forth by GGFSC Executive Board, the coach and D.o.C..

 **\*\*\*All Code sheets must be turned into the team manager and all fees must be current. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in a game until the team manager has received the signed conduct form and have been notified that all fees are current.**

SPECIFIC TEAM/ACTIVITY RULES: Individual programs may have additional training rules/regulations that apply to athletes.

Ability alone does not guarantee a position in any activity. Dedication, cooperation, practice, teamwork, fundamentals, and respect for team/activity rules are required. These team specific rules will include information regarding practice and game/event attendance.

INJURIES: GGFSC will ensure that competent coaches/advisors, safe facilities, and safe equipment are utilized. Nevertheless, injuries may still occur. If an injury occurs, notify the coach/manager. MEDICAL COSTS FOR INJURIES ARE NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF the GGFSC. Injury costs are the responsibility of participants and/or their parents/guardians.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND DRUGS: Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or other controlled substances defined by North Dakota law is prohibited.

GENERAL CONDUCT: Any conduct deemed detrimental to the team, will result in consequences on a case by case basis at the discretion of applicable board members and coaches. These consequences could include, but are not limited to, loss of playing time, game suspensions, or removal from the team.

\*\*\*Inappropriate usage of social media outlets falls under this guideline.

Head Coaches have 100% autonomy in deciding whether or not to release athletes to any adult: parent or otherwise. If the coach determines that releasing the athlete is a safety risk for any reason, that athlete will ride home with someone else from the club. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we will not put our athletes in a potentially dangerous situation.

An athlete who is suspended for any reason is not allowed to travel with the team.

**Our signatures at the bottom of the page indicate that I (athlete) and we (parents/guardians) have closely read the GGFSC Code of Conduct acknowledge our acceptance and willingness to observe the code of conduct and follow its rules and regulations.**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Athlete Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(please read page 2 before signing)**

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

The following are communication guidelines put in place by the GGFSC Executive Board. All coaches, parents, and athletes are expected to follow these guidelines.

Communication Parents Can Expect From a Coach:

1. Philosophy of the coach

2. Expectations of the athlete and the team

3. Location of all practices and games

4. A copy of the team rules

**\*\*\*Discussion of your son’s or daughter’s role on the team will be between the coach and the athlete only.**

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents:

1. Concerns related to your son or daughter’s mental, physical, or emotional well-being

2. Specific questions about a coach’s expectations of parents

3. Notification of any injuries or illnesses

4. Prior notification of any student absences from practices or games

APPROPRIATE Parental Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

1. Mental or physical treatment of your son/daughter

2. Ways in which you can help your son/daughter improve

3. Concerns about your son/daughter’s behavior

INAPPROPRIATE Parental Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

1. Playing Time

\*Playing time discussions will be between the coach and athlete only.

2. Team Strategy

3. Play Calling

4. Team Selection

5. Another Athlete

If a conversation with a coach turns to any of those five topics, our coaches are instructed to immediately end the discussion. Parents can reschedule a meeting with the coach to continue an appropriate discussion at a later date. Further, any vulgarity, rude behavior, or threats will signal an immediate end to any discussion.

**24 Hour Rule:** Because coaches have much to think about prior to a game and are highly emotional following a game, we ask that parents do not confront a coach with any concern within 24 hours before or after a game. Often, these confrontations will lead to emotionally charged discussions that bring no resolution. Waiting 24 hours after the conclusion of a game will allow both the parent and the coach time to “cool down” before discussing a concern.

ENGAGEMENT GUIDELINES

\*\*These guidelines do not include concerns about the mental, physical, or emotional well-being of the athlete. If a parent has a concern about any of those areas, please contact the president or vice president of the club immediately.

1. Communication regarding any other conflict will begin strictly between the athlete and the coach. The board will not discuss any concern that hasn’t already been discussed between the athlete and coach.

2. If the conflict continues, the athlete, coach, and D.o.C. can meet to further discuss the issue. Depending on the concern, this meeting may also include the parent(s) and club president or vice president.

3. If the conflict continues, the parent may meet with the president or vice president. \*\*ANY DISCUSSION REGARDING A CONFLICT WILL BE PASSED ALONG TO BOTH THE ATHLETE AND THE COACH INVOLVED – INCLUDING PHONE AND EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS.

It is important to note that the GGFSC does not guarantee a resolution to all concerns.