



Vancouver FC Parent Code of Conduct

Vancouver FC has implemented the following Parent Code of Conduct for the important message that it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting their child in sports. Parents are required to read and agree to this Code of Conduct prior to their child registering with Vancouver FC. Any parent guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be subject to discipline as detailed in this Code of Conduct.

Background:

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

- Trustworthiness,
- Respect,
- Responsibility,
- Fairness,
- Caring,
- Good Citizenship.

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”

Code of Conduct

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports that they do not wish to participate in. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
3. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the Club, League and District.
4. I (and my guests), will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
5. I (and my guests), will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.

6. I will not encourage any behaviours or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
7. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
8. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, colour, sex or ability.
9. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or their performance.
10. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
11. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
12. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning.
13. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
14. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place. I will not discuss issues with coaches on game days or during practices, unless otherwise agreed to in advance by the coach.
15. The field area and coaches sidelines are for teams and officials only. When possible I will remain on the opposite side of the field to the players and coaches sidelines.
16. I will refrain from criticism of coaches, referees, or opponents during games and in the presence of my child or other children. Constructive criticism, when you feel necessary, should be directed towards your team's coaches in private.
17. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
18. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
19. I will, when able, assist with tasks as requested by coaches or managers (i.e. putting nets up, taking nets down after games, lining fields, etc.).
20. I will ensure that if my child is absent from a game or practice that adequate notice will be given to the coaches or manager.
21. I will do my very best to ensure that my child is prepared for every game and practice.
22. I understand that improper behavior at a game may result in a parent being asked to leave the field by the referee, team or club official so the coach does not receive a yellow card caution or red card ejection due to the actions of the parent spectators.

Social Media

- Vancouver FC will not tolerate disrespectful, offensive or inappropriate comments, texts, photos or videos or other form of online posting directed towards any player, parent, team official or game official or directed towards any opposition team, coach or player. Parents should be familiar with the club's *"Social Media Policy and Guidelines"*.

Discipline

Disciplinary actions could include, but are not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of Club, League or District.
- Written warning.
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved.
- Game forfeit through the official or coach.
- Parental season suspension.

I understand that Vancouver FC can, and will if necessary, suspend my individual privilege to watch my child play, practice or attend Vancouver FC sanctioned events should I behave in a manner that is inconsistent with this Code of Conduct. Sanctions imposed by the club will be consistent with discipline policies issued by BC Soccer. BC Soccer has taken a firm stance against adult misconduct at youth events resulting in suspension from attendance at all soccer-related activities for such infractions. Parents should be familiar with BC Soccer policies (<http://bcsoccer.net>).