

## **South Huron Soccer Club Code of Conduct and Ethics**

The South Huron Soccer Club (SHSC) is committed to providing all members of our club with a safe, inclusive and enjoyable experience throughout our soccer season. The purpose of this document is to outline what are acceptable behaviours from coaches, players, parents/guardians and officials. The SHSC reserves the right to remove any member from our organization if they do not adhere to the standards outlined by these guidelines. The SHSC adheres to the guidelines of our governing organizations, including Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics and Ontario Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics.

All SHSC members will:

- Provide an environment that promotes a player's physical and emotional safety
- Respect the rights of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Demonstrate behaviours that promote sportsmanship, leadership, and overall ethical conduct
- Refrain from behaviours of any kind that constitute harassment, violence or sexual harassment
- Refrain from using offensive language
- Respect and not cause damage to the facilities and equipment provided by the SHSC

### **Coaches Code of Conduct**

In addition to the responsibilities required from all SHSC members, coaches will:

- Complete the appropriate Ontario Soccer coaching workshop based on the age group that is being coached
- Support the Coaches Association of Canada Responsible Coaching Movement by:
  - Adhering to the Rule of Two Policy, as described below
  - Completing the Respect in Sport Activity Leader training
  - Completing a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Check
- Properly evaluate the skills of players based on age, experience and ability and select appropriate drills based on these standards
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved within the sport, including opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators
- Be mindful of players' safety during practice and games and show concern toward sick and injured players
- Recognize any physical contact with a child should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development or medical care
- Acknowledge that issues of a sensitive nature will require a level of confidentiality

## **Players Code of Conduct**

In addition to the responsibilities required from all SHSC members, players will:

- Be respectful of coaches and teammates by being prepared and punctual to all practices and games
- Refrain from ridiculing teammates or opponents on their performance
- Inform coaches of any medical issues that may hinder their ability to play
- Have proper equipment and clothing

## **Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct**

In addition to the responsibilities required from all SHSC members, parents/guardians will:

- Encourage their child to conduct themselves in a respectful sportsmanlike manner
- Refrain from ridiculing their child on their performance
- Respect the decisions of both coaches and officials

## **Officials Code of Conduct**

In addition to the responsibilities required from all SHSC members, officials will:

- Complete the appropriate Ontario Soccer match official course and maintain an annual registration with the organization
- Be aware of any changes to the rules and regulations, as outlined by Ontario Soccer
- Be impartial with both players and coaches while officiating
- Acknowledge that issues of a sensitive nature will require a level of confidentiality
- Have proper equipment and clothing
- Honour all game assignments or inform the SHSC of conflicts at the earliest convenience

## **Code of Conduct to Protect Children**

The safety of children is a paramount concern of the SHSC, and it is imperative that all members of the SHSC adhere to the club's regulations. The SHSC adheres to the guidelines of Commit to Kids Code of Conduct to Protect Children in Sport and Canada Soccer Rule of Two Guidelines.

When volunteering with the SHSC, all members will:

- Treat children with respect and dignity
- Maintain appropriate boundaries with all children and families and limit interactions to developing skills in the soccer program
- Ensure that peers are conducting themselves in an appropriate and respectful manner
- Refrain from using unacceptable behaviours towards a child, including but not limited to, embarrassing, shaming, blaming, humiliating or putting them down
- Refrain from engaging in any physical contact, communication or behaviour with a child that would make the child uncomfortable

The SHSC considers the following as inappropriate behaviours between club volunteers and children, and will not be tolerated:

- Inappropriate communication
  - Communication with a child or family member that falls outside of volunteer duties
  - Includes personal phone calls, electronic communications, personal letters or excessive communication
- Inappropriate contact
  - Engaging in unauthorized time with a child that falls outside of volunteer duties
- Favouritism
  - Providing attention or special privileges to certain children
- Taking personal photos or videos
  - Using personal devices to take pictures of children
  - Uploading media on a personal storage device
- Making sexually explicit comments to a child
- Showing a child material that is sexual in nature
- Intimidating or threatening a child
- Making fun of a child

The SHSC requires that all inappropriate or illegal behaviours, including the suspicion of child abuse, be reported to the appropriate authorities immediately. This includes both incidents witnessed first hand and those notified by a third party. In addition to notifying the SHSC (southhuronsoccer@gmail.com) immediately after an incident has occurred, allegations should be reported in the following manner:

- All allegations or suspicions of potentially illegal behaviour (e.g. child sexual abuse) that is witnessed first-hand must be promptly reported to police and/or child welfare
- Allegations or suspicions of potentially illegal behaviour that is reported to the SHSC must be promptly reported to police and/or child welfare
- Allegations or suspicions of inappropriate behaviour, as described above, must be reported to the SHSC

The SHSC requires that all interactions between coaches and players follow the Rule of Two guideline to protect individuals in potentially vulnerable situations. This ensures that there will be no one-on-one interactions between a coach and player, with the exception of medical emergencies. The following scenarios are acceptable by the Rule of Two Standards:

- Two certified and screened coaches with one player (gold standard)
- One certified and screened coach and one adult with one player (alternative standard)
- One certified and screened coach with two players (alternative standard and not recommended)