



REGION OF NORTH SHORE UNITED



Code of Conduct

In keeping with the philosophy set forth by the GSC Mission Statement, the following Codes of Conduct have been adopted to better promote fairness, teamwork, good citizenship, sportsmanship, responsibility and respect among the members of Germantown Soccer Club. Players will learn these values by the examples they see from those around them, and to this end, the following rules will be strictly enforced:

Applaud effort on the field, regardless of the score. Remember that the league exists for the players to learn and to have fun. While soccer is competitive in nature, winning is of secondary performance. Parents should be supportive of coaches. The coaches are volunteers giving of their time in order to coach. Parents should be a positive role model that fosters respect of the coaches among the players.

Verbal abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated. The offender may be removed from the field at the discretion of a referee, coach or GSC board member. Soccer is a game of interpretations, and as a result, disputes will occur from time to time. However, it is important that players learn respect. All disputes that are taken up with the referee will be handled in a civil manner. Only coaches may initiate such discussions with a referee. The coaches will conduct themselves with decorum and, once the referee has made his/her final ruling, the coaches will make no further field protest. Off-field protests may be lodged with the Board of Directors per league policy. Coaches will refrain from complaining about perceived bad calls to players and fans. All discussions will be held in conversational tones. Under no circumstances will a coach, fan, or player yell at a referee, coach, fan, or player. The lone exception to this rule is when a coach or player shouts to another coach or teammate during the course of a play as part of that play. Profanity is expressly forbidden at all times. Alcoholic beverages and the use of illicit drugs are prohibited at all GSC activities.

The use of tobacco products on the GSC fields, whether owned, leased or visited is prohibited.

Field Ejections: Anyone ejected from the GSC playing, coaching, or fan areas must leave immediately. At an absolute minimum, this is defined as the immediate parking area.

Any infraction of the Code of Conduct will result in a written report being drafted and delivered by the referee in charge to the GSC Board of Directors for consideration of further

action, as appropriate. Any and all field ejections are required to be reported by the referee in charge to the Director of Coaching within two days. All ejections are required to be reviewed no later than the next scheduled Board Meeting.

Physical Abuse: Physical abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator will result in **immediate** expulsion from the GSC fields at the direction of a referee. Anyone expelled for this reason may not return to the GSC fields or participate in any GSC activity until the GSC Board of Directors approves.

Petition for Review: Any parent, coach, fan, player, or referee who has been suspended or banned from league activities may petition, in writing, to the GSC Board of Directors for a review of the penalty. The petition should be delivered to the President of GSC, and the GSC Board of Directors will meet as soon as reasonably possible to consider the petition. The aggrieved parties will have the opportunity at the meeting to present their appeal.

Concerns about a player's role on a team should be expressed to a coach in a private setting and never in public.

It should be also noted that referees are "in training" as well as the players. Coaches and parents should bear in mind that most of our referees are youngsters learning the skills of umpiring. All referees will make mistakes occasionally, but coaches and parents are expected to accord the referees with the respect their position within the game deserves. Booing, taunting, refusing to shake another coach's and/or player's hands after a game, or ridiculing another player is **NEVER** acceptable behavior. Teach players that they have a responsibility to learn and to try their best. Effort leads to achievement and respect. All children, regardless of race, creed, sex, or talent, will have an opportunity to play soccer and to learn the importance of being a part of a team.

