

FC Dulles Coaches Code of Conduct

OBJECTIVES: Coaches shall perform coaching services in accordance with applicable FC Dulles (“Club”) values, customary industry standards and best practices to achieve the following objectives in order of priority:

1. Players' safety and health;
2. Building of players’ character through the development of sportsmanship, fair play, respect, and teamwork;
3. Players’ long term development of soccer skills, knowledge, and performance.

CONDUCT TOWARDS REFEREES/OFFICIALS:

1. Coaches shall extend respect and courtesy to match and competition referees/officials and greet officials before the game to set a positive tone.
2. Coaches shall not incite players, team officials, or spectators into conduct towards referees/officials that is contrary to the FIFA Laws of the Game, respective league modifications and policies, and VYSA policies (“Laws of the game”) Such behavior will have severe disciplinary consequences from respective leagues and FC Dulles.
3. Coaches shall not make demeaning or derogatory comments or gestures directed towards any referee/official either directly or after the fact to players or parents.
4. Coaches shall use their influence and authority to deter inappropriate conduct by parents, spectators, and players towards referee/officials and opponents.
5. COACHES UNDERSTAND THAT FC DULLES HAS A ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY TOWARD REFEREE ABUSE, AND THAT ANY VERBAL ABUSE AND/OR PHYSICAL ASSAULT TO AN OFFICIAL WILL RESULT IN SEVERE PUNISHMENT UP TO AND INCLUDING ADJUDICATION AT THE STATE LEVEL.

CONDUCT TOWARDS PLAYERS:

1. Coaches shall be role models and teach the values of sportsmanship, fair play, respect, and teamwork.
2. Coaches shall teach the FC Dulles Curriculum/US Youth Soccer Player Development Model/US Soccer 2017 Player Development initiatives to the best of their ability.
3. Coaches shall not place winning over the safety and welfare of players.
4. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the Laws of the Game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
5. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching gamesmanship and unsporting behavior to players.
6. Coaches shall use appropriate language at all times and not demean opponents or referees/officials.
7. Coaches shall not use drugs, alcohol or tobacco products while involved in any youth soccer activities, whether training, attending games, or officiating.
8. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, or tolerate inappropriate behavior from players.

9. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, or permit any player to violate any rules and policies of FC Dulles, and the Player/Parent Agreement for travel players.
10. Coaches shall encourage players to reach their highest potential.
11. Coaches shall be up-to-date and comply with FC Dulles' concussion prevention, management, and return-to-play policies. Coaches shall direct players to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow instructions received from health care professionals regarding treatment and rehabilitation.

CONDUCT TOWARDS OPPONENTS:

1. Coaches shall respect opponents within accordance to the Laws of Game and to the spirit of competition.
2. Coaches shall meet and greet officials and opposing coaches prior to the match to set the proper tone of the game.
3. Coaches shall encourage fair play and not condone or permit any player to engage in conduct with the intent of causing or attempting to cause injury to an opponent.
4. Coaches shall not engage in any physical or verbal confrontation with any opposing player, coach, or supporter. Such behavior will have disciplinary consequences from the respective leagues and from FC Dulles.
5. Coaches shall minimize blowouts- unbalanced games can have damaging effects on the club including players getting discouraged, parents getting upset, coaches complaining, and players and parents leaving the club. It is incumbent on the winning coach to make sure blowouts are minimized. If it becomes obvious one team is much stronger than the other then it's best for the coach of the stronger team to implement one or more of the following blowout prevention techniques done in a way as to not embarrass the other team:
 - a. Opposition -- Reduce the number of players on the field for the stronger team (while still ensuring Everyone Plays at least 50% of the time).
 - b. Passing -- Every player must touch the ball before a shot is taken.
 - c. Passing -- Two-Touch, every player can only have two touches of the ball in sequence, no dribbling (this is an incredible opportunity to improving your team's passing game!).
 - d. Passing -- Must complete 5, 10, or more passes before shooting.
 - e. Passing -- All passes must be done with the players' weaker (off) foot.
 - f. Shooting -- Only take shots from outside the opponents penalty area.
 - g. Shooting -- Each player can only score 1 goal, must pass to a player that has not yet scored for a shot.
 - h. Shooting -- Only 1 designated player can take shots until they score once, then another player becomes the designated shooter.
 - i. Shooting -- All shots must be with the players' weaker (off) foot.
 - j. Crosses -- Can only score with a cross and 1 touch kick (U10 & under).
 - k. Crosses & Heading -- Can only score with a cross and header (U12 & up).
 - l. Ball control -- Players must only use their weak (left) foot for dribbling, passing, and shooting.
 - m. Do two or more of the above at the same time.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE GAME AND TRAINING SESSIONS:

1. Coaches shall adhere to all Club, League, and VYSA policies. Coaches are required to know the Laws of the Game and shall coach in a manner that reflects the spirit of the Laws of the Game.
2. Coaches shall provide instruction to players on the meaning and application of the Laws of the Game.
3. Coaches shall accept the responsibilities of team leadership and shall be accountable- both by the respective leagues they play in and by FC Dulles- for the conduct of the players, team officials, and spectators affiliated with their teams.
4. Coaches shall coach in accordance with the FC Dulles Curriculum, US Youth Soccer Development Model, and US Soccer's 2017 Player Development Initiatives.
5. Coaches shall be punctual, prepared, and wear and maintain proper club training and game-day apparel. Coaches understand they are required to wear official FC Dulles soccer apparel at all sessions. Coaches shall refrain from using equipment and/or apparel that displays a outside organizations name and/or logo other than the manufacturer's name and/or logo.
6. Coaches shall not allow players who have been suspended by the Club to participate in any game or training session until sanctions are removed by the Club. Coaches shall not allow a suspended player due to league disciplinary procedures to participate in any games until the suspension is served.

RECRUITING

1. Coaches shall comply with league and FC Dulles rules and policies pertaining to registration and player recruitment.
2. Coaches shall not engage in any recruiting activity intended to move FC Dulles Member Players to another club or to another team within FC Dulles without express written permission of the Club Technical Director or FC Dulles Club President.
3. Coaches shall not solicit or encourage the transfer of a FC Dulles team to another club without express written permission of the Club Technical Director and FC Dulles Club President.
4. Coaches shall not knowingly, recklessly, or negligently misrepresent or defame programs in FC Dulles Soccer with the intent to recruit FC Dulles Players to another club or another team within FC Dulles Soccer.
5. Coaches shall cease and desist from any and all recruiting activity directed toward a player upon request from the player or the player's legal guardian.
6. Coaches shall not allow any surrogate to engage in recruiting activities prohibited by the Coaching Code of Conduct (including parents, players, friends, etc...).

VIOLATIONS

Violations of FC Dulles's Coaches Code of Conduct will be referred to the FC Dulles Club Technical Director and FC Dulles Board of Directors for further discipline if necessary.