

Milltown United Soccer Club

Code of Conduct for Players, Coaches, and Parents

(rev. August 18, 2013)

As a recreational soccer club serving young players, Milltown's purpose is not limited to improving soccer skills; the Club also seeks to create a safe, positive, respectful environment that promotes enjoyment of the game for all participants. Creating and maintaining such an environment is the responsibility of everyone involved, including coaches, players, parents, volunteers, and game officials.

The Milltown Code of Conduct for players, coaches, and parents is an important—but not exhaustive—list of behaviors that can impact the soccer environment. The Club expects participants to adhere to these minimum standards of appropriate behavior and, in addition, to act at all times in ways that promote safety, good sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for all participants.

Violations of the Code of Conduct will be referred to the Milltown Board and will be subject to a range of appropriate corrective actions. In addition, the club may take action with respect to behaviors not mentioned in the code of conduct, but which in the judgment of the Board may affect the safety or enjoyment of any participant, or may detract from the club's goal of creating a positive environment that values safety, good sportsmanship, fair play, and respect.

Player Code of Conduct

- Players will show respect for teammates, coaches, game officials, opponents, and spectators at all times.
- Players will support and encourage their teammates during practices and games.
- Players will congratulate opponents following every game.
- Players will arrive at practices and games on time, and will notify the coach as soon as possible of expected absences from practices or games.
- Players will adhere to the laws of the game.
- Players will strive to display good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play at all times.
- Players will play for the enjoyment of the sport.
- Players will not use profanity during any team or club event.
- Players will not argue with, or otherwise show disrespect toward, a linesperson or referee.
- Players will not taunt, verbally abuse, or physically intimidate any other participant during any team or club event.
- Players will not use alcohol or illegal substances at any time.

Coach Code of Conduct

- Coaches will act as role models for players and parents, and will at all times display good sportsmanship and respect for all participants.
- Coaches will make the health and safety of players their primary consideration.
- Coaches will promote a positive and supportive atmosphere for players and parents.
- Coaches will support and encourage all players, regardless of skill level.
- Coaches will ensure fair and equitable playing time, which in most recreational games will mean roughly equal playing time for all players.
- Coaches will teach and encourage players to play within the laws of the game.
- Coaches will establish expectations for player and parent conduct at practices and games, and will be responsible for the behavior of players, parents, and assistant coaches at any game, practice, or other team event.
- Coaches will teach fundamental soccer skills and help players develop a basic understanding of the game.
- Coaches will continually seek to improve their understanding of age-appropriate coaching techniques.
- Coaches will not use profanity during any team or club event.
- Coaches will not argue with, or otherwise show disrespect toward, a linesperson or referee.
- Coaches will not engage in taunting, verbal abuse, or physical intimidation during any team or club event.
- Coaches will not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances at any practice or game, or when transporting players to or from any practice, game, or other club-related event.
- Coaches will never leave a player unattended following a practice or game.

Parent Code of Conduct

- Parents will remember that players participate to have fun.
- Parents will help their children understand and adhere to the Player Code of Conduct.
- Parents will encourage their children to show respect for all other participants by doing so themselves.
- Parents will encourage and support all players, including those from the opposing team, during games.
- Parents will inform their child's coach of any physical or emotional issue that may affect the child's safety or enjoyment of the game.
- Parents will not coach their children from the sidelines.
- Parents will not use profanity during any team or club event.
- Parents will not argue with, or otherwise show disrespect toward, a linesperson or referee.
- Parents will not engage in taunting, verbal abuse, or physical intimidation during any team or club event.
- Parents will not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances at any practice or game, or when transporting players to or from any practice, game, or other club-related event.