



Monona Grove FC (MGFC) is dedicated to providing all players the opportunity to enjoy the game of soccer. With that opportunity comes the responsibility to provide an environment that is conducive to learning the game, developing skills, and most importantly displaying good sportsmanship and respect. MGFC is dedicated to these principles and we expect our coaches to be as well. To ensure we are clear on expectations, MGFC has developed the following Code of Conduct highlighting for our coaches.

Standards of Conduct: Coaches

1. The Basics

- a. Act Professionally – You are representing MGFC. The expectation is for you to have a positive impact on our young players. Coaches should not yell, berate, or belittle any players, parents, opposing players or coaches. Foul language and inappropriate actions will not be tolerated. Focus on being positive and approachable.
- b. Use of alcohol or tobacco products at MGFC practices and games is strictly prohibited.
- c. Know the rules – Know the rules of soccer and coach our players accordingly
- d. Certification and Licensing – MGFC expects **all coaches** to have their required training courses and certificates complete in advance of the start of the season. In the event this is not possible, MGFC expects coaches are actively striving to complete the needed certificates/licenses as quickly as possible.

2. Respect:

- a. Players and parents - Both players and parents from your team and the opposing team deserve your respect before, during, and after games and practices. Treat all players fairly and with honesty and integrity.
- b. Officials- Are well trained and know the rules of the game. They do an amazing job, but like all of us they are NOT perfect. Respect the calls they do or do not make on the field. Refrain from directly addressing the officials or questioning their decisions before, during, or after a game. The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association (WYSA) has a zero tolerance policy against referee abuse.
- c. Sportsmanship – Be a role model. Imprint upon your players and parents the concept of good sportsmanship. Embody the sentiment from the sportswriter Grandland Rice that it is “not that you won or lost – but how you played the game.” As a coach it is your responsibility to ensure your players and parents respect the opposing team and officials. Parents and players have signed their own code of conduct committing to respecting all players, coaches, and officials.

3. Behavior

- a. Players are expected to participate at scheduled practices and games. Participation includes: good listening, a willingness to learn, a positive attitude, and a desire to improve. Contradictory behavior (being disruptive, disrespectful, or a distraction) is not-acceptable. As a coach, you are managing a team of young athletes, not an individual player. In the event you must deal with poor behavior, use your best discretion on how to discipline. This discipline may include verbal warnings, sitting out parts of practices or games, sitting out entire games, and in extreme cases the potential for dismissal from MGFC. Any significant corrective actions with the player shall be communicated to the parents/guardians. Collectively, a plan will be made for the behavior issue to be corrected. Timely intervention will allow our players to get back on track and enjoy the game of soccer.

4. Attendance

- a. Soccer is a team sport. Attendance at practices and games is critical. Parents and players have

agreed that soccer is a commitment and will attend practices and games. A player consistently missing practices and games hurts the team and is unfair to their teammates. At the discretion of the coaching staff, players that habitually miss practices and games will see a reduction in playing time.

b. Coaches are expected to be on time and well prepared for all practices and games. Arriving late or missing scheduled practices and games is not acceptable and a clear violation of the trust that parents have in our MGFC coaching staff. Habitual issues will lead to your removal as a coach.

5. Player Interaction

a. Never be alone: Unless previously arranged with and approved by a parent, coaches and managers should never be alone with a player that is not their own child. Be vigilant to inappropriate behavior and cognizant of situations that could be perceived as inappropriate. b. Physical Contact: Coaches are strictly prohibited from any physical contact with players with the exception of an encouraging high five, fist bump, hand shake, or a pat on the shoulder or head. Striking a child or any other physical contact is strictly prohibited.

6. Playing Time

a. Silver teams: Coaches will strive to ensure players are playing at least 1/2 of each game and will have the opportunity to experience a variety of positions. The objective is to ensure players are gaining experience and developing their soccer skills. b. Blue Teams: Decisions regarding playing time and positions will be made by the coach. These decisions will be made in a manner that best supports the team. Players shall play at least 1/3 of the game, in the position that best supports the team. Exact times may vary based on availability of subs, flow of game play and overall effort/effectiveness of an individual player. Throughout the season, coaches will work with players to develop their skills and abilities.

I agree to abide by the outlined Code of Conduct at all times

Signed: _____ Date: _____