

Spectator Zones and Parent Participation

At Elite FT, we want every child to have the best possible experience during our programs. To support that goal, each program has designated areas where spectators can sit or stand while watching. In nearly all programs, this is away from the players and their water.

We create this atmosphere because we care about what is best for the kids. We know that it is best for kids to stay engaged, focused and connected with their coaches and teammates while on a brief break and not get distracted by a parent, sibling, family member and then must re-focus their attention back to the activity. Our goal is to create an environment that supports learning, fun, and confidence for every player.

Typically, our site director will let spectators know where to sit or stand. Below are guidelines by age group and location.

Ages 2–3

ONE adult is allowed on the field with their child. All other spectators must remain in the designated Spectator Zone.

Location Guidelines

Glen Carbon Indoors at The Sports Academy

Parents must sit in the bleachers or at the tables on the spectator side of the field. They may not sit or stand on the player bench side or past the large yellow sticker on the ground marked “Players and Coaches Only Past This Point.” Parents may escort their child to place their water bottle on the field, but once the child is settled, we ask that you return to the spectator area.

Exception: For our **Bosco’s Buddies (Ages 2–3)** program, one parent is required to be on the field.

The Annex Gym at The Sports Academy

Parents must remain outside the gym during class. Spectators are not allowed inside the gym while classes are in session.

Belleville Indoors at SWIC Blue Storm Building

Space is limited for parents, and there are no bleachers. Our staff will mark a Spectator Zone with cones, and parents must stay within that zone.

Alton Indoors at Bristow Plex

Space is limited for parents, and there are no bleachers. Our staff will mark a Spectator Zone with cones, and parents must stay within that zone.

Enforcement

If a spectator is in a restricted area, our site director or staff will kindly ask them to move to the appropriate location. It’s important that everyone follows these guidelines—if one person is in the wrong spot, others tend to follow.

If a spectator does not comply, Elite FT may take any of the following actions:

- Politely ask the person to move to the correct area
- Remove the spectator from the premises or program
- Remove the participant from the premises or program
- Permanently ban the spectator from attending future Elite FT programs, events, or facilities
- Report the incident to law enforcement if necessary