



BEND FC COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS

"The Game for All Kids"

Purpose

Bend FC coaches, and Central Oregon Soccer League Coaches, serve a role far greater than teaching soccer skills. Coaches are mentors, role models, and leaders who help young people grow into confident, respectful, and responsible individuals. Our mission is to ensure that every player enjoys the game, develops as a person, and experiences soccer in a positive and meaningful way.

Role Modeling & Professional Conduct

- Coaches will demonstrate behavior that reflects the highest standards of integrity, respect, and sportsmanship.
- Coaches will treat all players, parents, referees, administrators, and fellow coaches with dignity and courtesy at all times.
- Coaches will address concerns, disagreements, or dissatisfaction privately and in a calm, respectful, and professional manner.
- Coaches will respect and honor the beliefs, backgrounds, and sensitivities of all individuals involved in Bend FC.
- Coaches understand that their actions—on and off the field—set the standard for players to follow.

Commitment to Players

- Coaches recognize that every player has value both as an athlete and as a person.
- Coaches will provide a positive, inclusive environment where all players feel respected, supported, and important to the team.

Playing Time Expectations:

- In recreational programs, coaches are committed to fair participation, with each player receiving more than 50% playing time (except for health or disciplinary reasons).

- In competitive programs, coaches will ensure players are meaningfully involved and not placed on teams simply to observe.
- Coaches will strive to make soccer as fair and enjoyable as possible, recognizing that their responsibility is to create a positive sporting experience—not to reinforce life's inequities.

Preparation & Player Development

- Coaches will be prepared for training sessions and games.
- Practices will be structured, purposeful, and age-appropriate, maximizing time and player development.
- Coaches will create game plans that utilize the strengths of all players while promoting teamwork and confidence.
- Coaches will focus on long-term player development over short-term results.

Positive Coaching Environment

- Coaches will be encouragers, not discouragers.
- Coaches will provide constructive feedback that builds confidence and fosters growth.
- Coaches will create a safe, supportive, and fun environment where players are motivated to learn and compete.
- Coaches will actively promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for the game.

Rules & Governance

- Coaches will follow all **Laws of the Game** and adhere to the policies and procedures of:
 - Bend FC
 - Central Oregon Soccer League (COSL)
 - Oregon Youth Soccer
 - U.S. Youth Soccer
 - U.S. Soccer Federation
- Coaches will support referees and respect their decisions at all times.

Commitment to Fun & Enjoyment

- Coaches will ensure that soccer remains an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all players.
- Coaches will prioritize player engagement, creativity, and love for the game over pressure and fear of mistakes.

Conflicts of Interest

Coaches must avoid any situation that creates, or appears to create, unfair advantage or bias.

Guiding Principles:

- Decisions must always prioritize what is best for all players—not individual interests.
- Coaches will avoid favoritism toward:
 - Their own child
 - Specific players
 - Their team or club at the expense of others

****Bend FC Competitive Coaches must have club technical committee approval and a USSF C license to head coach their own child. Parents may team manager or assistant coach their own children.***

Examples of Conflicts of Interest:

- Promoting one player unfairly over others
- Providing special treatment not available to all
- Influencing team placement or opportunities outside of established club policies

Coaches are expected to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. All decisions should align with the principle:

“The Game for All Kids.”

Gift Giving Policy

- Coaches are discouraged from giving gifts to players due to the risk of perceived favoritism or pressure.
- Coaches must follow all Bend FC policies regarding gift giving.
- Coaches will respectfully decline any gifts offered by parents, explaining that it is against club policy.

Parent & Spectator Interaction

- Coaches will uphold and support the Bend FC Parent Code of Conduct.
- Coaches will set clear boundaries with parents regarding communication, game-day behavior, and sideline conduct.
- Coaches will foster a respectful environment and address concerns through appropriate club channels.

Anti-Bullying & Player Safety

- Coaches are responsible for maintaining a safe and inclusive environment free from bullying of any kind.
- Coaches will take all reports of bullying seriously and act promptly in accordance with club policies.
- Coaches will model and enforce respect, inclusion, and accountability among players.

Social Media & Communication

- Coaches will represent Bend FC professionally in all communications, including social media.
- Coaches will not post or engage in content that is negative, inappropriate, or harmful to players, families, officials, or the club.
- Coaches will respect player privacy and adhere to all club communication policies.

Enforcement & Accountability

- Coaches who violate this Code of Ethics may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from their coaching role.
- Bend FC reserves the right to enforce this Code in alignment with club policies and governing organizations.

Commitment Statement

By serving as a Bend FC coach or Central Oregon Soccer League Coach you are committed to upholding this Code of Ethics and to prioritizing the development, well-being, and enjoyment of every player.

Bend FC is committed to developing not just better soccer players—but better people.