



Bend FC Coaches Code of Ethics

Purpose

I coach because I want to help young people mature into well-adjusted, productive adults with strong character. I am committed to providing a positive environment where players are introduced to the fun and exciting game of soccer. My goal is simple: to help players enjoy the game while growing as individuals.

1. Role Model & Conduct

- I will lead by example in my actions, language, and behavior at all times.
- I will treat all players, coaches, administrators, parents, and referees with respect and courtesy.
- I will address concerns privately, professionally, and respectfully.
- I will honor and respect the beliefs, backgrounds, and sensitivities of all members of the soccer community.

2. Commitment to Players

- I recognize that every player has value both as an athlete and as a person.
- Players are on teams to participate and develop—not to sit and watch.
- In recreational programs, I will ensure fair and equitable playing time (minimum of 50%, barring health or disciplinary reasons).
- I will create an environment that promotes fairness, inclusion, and opportunity for all players, regardless of ability level.
- My responsibility is to make the soccer experience as fair and positive as possible.

3. Preparation & Development

- I will be prepared for all practices and games.
- Practices will be structured, purposeful, and developmentally appropriate.
- Game plans will maximize player development while ensuring each player feels valued and respected.
- I will prioritize long-term player development over short-term results.

4. Positive Coaching

- I will encourage and support players at all times.
- I will never demean, belittle, or discourage any player.
- I will foster confidence, resilience, and a love for the game.

5. Rules & Governance

- I will adhere to the Laws of the Game.
- I will follow all policies and procedures set forth by Bend FC, COSL, OYSA, US Youth Soccer, and the U.S. Soccer Federation.
- I will support referees and uphold respect for officiating at all times.

6. Fun & Enjoyment

- I will ensure that soccer remains a fun, engaging, and positive experience for every player.
- Player enjoyment and well-being will always be a top priority.

Conflicts of Interest

Coaches must avoid situations where personal interests interfere with fairness and integrity.

- I will avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest.
- I will not give preferential treatment to my own child or any individual player.
- I will not promote one player, team, or club at the expense of others.
- I will not accept or provide improper benefits, gifts, or incentives.

Parent Coaches (Competitive Programs):

- Parent coaches must take extra care to ensure objectivity and fairness.

- For top-level teams, parent coaches must meet minimum licensing standards (USSF C License or equivalent, as required by Bend FC).

Guiding Principle:

“The Game for All Kids” — decisions must always prioritize the collective good of all players.

Gift Giving Policy

- Coaches should avoid giving gifts to players to prevent favoritism or perceived bias.
- Coaches must follow Bend FC policies regarding gifts.
- Coaches must politely decline gifts from parents, explaining club policy.

Parent & Spectator Expectations (Coach Enforcement)

Coaches are responsible for upholding Bend FC standards with parents and spectators:

- Promote and enforce respect toward referees, players, and all participants.
- Enforce zero tolerance for abusive, disruptive, or unsafe behavior.
- Ensure parents do not coach from the sidelines.
- Reinforce that participation in Bend FC is a privilege, not a right.
- Support proper communication channels (parent → coach → club leadership).
- Ensure sideline behavior reflects sportsmanship and community values.

Social Media Expectations

- Maintain professionalism in all online activity.
- Do not post negative, harmful, or inappropriate content about players, coaches, referees, or organizations.
- Protect player privacy and safety at all times.
- Represent Bend FC in a positive and respectful manner.

Anti-Bullying Commitment

Bend FC has zero tolerance for bullying.

- I will actively create a safe, inclusive environment.
- I will address and report any form of bullying immediately.
- Bullying includes verbal, social, or physical harm and will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Player Safety & Well-Being

- I will prioritize the physical and emotional safety of all players.
- I will foster an environment built on trust, respect, and inclusion.
- I will follow all Bend FC safety policies and reporting procedures.

Media & Player Privacy

- I understand that Bend FC may use photos/videos for promotional purposes.
- I will ensure that no private or sensitive player information is shared publicly.
- I will uphold all club policies regarding player confidentiality.

Enforcement

Failure to adhere to this Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from Bend FC coaching responsibilities.

Acknowledgment

By serving as a Bend FC coach, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to uphold this Code of Ethics. I accept responsibility for modeling the highest standards of integrity, sportsmanship, and professionalism.