

Ottawa City Soccer Club Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct and Ethics

Last updated October 2025



- Through submitting the participation application for my child, I have accepted the terms and conditions of membership whether I have actually read them or not, and I am therefore subject to the Ottawa City Soccer Club's rules, and to the rules and regulations of the organizations to which the Ottawa City Soccer Club belongs.
- I will be responsible for my child to every training session and game.
- My child plays soccer for his or her benefit, not mine.
- I will not give instructions to players – that is the coach's role.
- I will never question the match official's decisions, judgement, integrity or honesty and will encourage players to do the same.
- I will support all efforts to eliminate verbal and physical abuse from the game of soccer.
- If I am upset by something I will wait 24 hours before any communication with the Team Coach and will do so in a private and constructive manner.
- I will not approach the Team Coach prior to or during a training session.
- I will not approach the Team Coach prior to or during a game.
- I will show respect for all players, team personnel, match officials, opposing players, opposing team personnel, other parents, spectators and volunteers at all times.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game.
- I will never attend a training session, game or team event while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
- I will make my child feel like a winner by offering praise for competing fairly and doing their best.
- I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Children learn by example. I will applaud good plays and provide positive comments that motivate and encourage participants' continued effort.
- I will never ridicule a participant for making a mistake during a performance or training session.
- I will make sure that my child arrives for training sessions and game at the time designated by the Team Coach, ready to begin.
- I will not take part in any form of bullying, either to an opposing player or to a player on my team according to the Ottawa City Soccer Club's Harassment, Abuse and Bullying Policy. Bullying in any form, whether in person, electronically (any form of social media) will not be tolerated.
- I realize that the team can be penalized for my behaviour. I will obey a request by a match official or from the Team Coach to leave the vicinity of the field.
- I realize that failure to abide by the Code of Conduct may result in my removal of myself, and potentially my child, from the vicinity of the playing field and potentially further sanctions by the Ottawa City Soccer Club.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- SOCIAL NETWORKING is defined as communication through on-line communities of people such as, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, blogging, etc.
- Ottawa City Soccer Club (OCSC) understands the importance of SOCIAL NETWORKING, however, it also allows for inappropriate unsupervised conduct which may be detrimental to the welfare of Ottawa City Soccer Club and the future of OCSC players.
- OCSC holds the entire OCSC community, including Board, Team Personnel, Support Staff, Trainers, Players and Parents who participate in SOCIAL NETWORKING to the same standards as it would with all forms of media, including television, radio and print.
- Inappropriate behavior over SOCIAL NETWORKING media will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action being taken by OCSC. Disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, removal from the Ottawa City Soccer Club.
- Inappropriate use of social networking includes, but is not limited to: Statements that are demeaning to Ottawa City Soccer Club Boards, team personnel, its programs, its teams, players, members, support staff, parents, sponsors or any other person associated with OCSC, communication of confidential information that may include medical history, family situations, game plans or strategies and other information that is deemed confidential, sharing photos, videos or comments that promote negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to physical violence, drug/alcohol use, or taken in areas prohibited by policy, posting of inappropriate, derogatory, racist or sexist comments of any kind that contradict the policies of OCSC.

DISCIPLINE

- I recognize that infractions that occur during the game are governed by the Laws of the Game and will be decided by the Match Official. There may be further action, including suspensions or fines, by the league.
- I recognize that certain serious infractions will result in a discipline hearing convened by Ontario Soccer or their delegate, and could lead to a worldwide suspension from soccer, and a fine being levied by Ontario Soccer. Payment of the fine is my responsibility.
- I am responsible for reimbursing the Ottawa City Soccer Club for any and all fines payable by the Ottawa City Soccer Club due to my actions or inactions. Failure to pay any fines will result in my child's suspension from the Ottawa City Soccer Club for an indefinite period of time.

CONSEQUENCES

If for any reason the Code of Conduct is not followed by the parent(s), any (one or more) of the following steps may be taken by the Ottawa City Soccer Club:

- Request the parent not attend any training sessions, games or team events and/or;
- Remove the player from the team
- Remove the player from the Ottawa City Soccer Club