



# Player Code of Conduct

In order to ensure that the principles of sportsmanship, fair play, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators characterize all competition sponsored by the Freestate Soccer Alliance, the following Code of Conduct has been established by the Club Executive Committee. It is understood that this code of conduct is designed as a guide to promote an environment of good sportsmanship and fair play. The standards of behaviour identified in this code are not intended to be exhaustive. The participants should be aware that any behaviour not specifically described herein but failing to meet the spirit and intent of this code may subject those involved to disciplinary action.

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

- Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.
- Concentrate on playing soccer to the best of your ability. Work equally as hard for your team as for yourself
- Know and respect the rules of soccer, and abide by them at all times.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions before, during, or after the game. Note: The team captain or his designate may address the officials during the game but only within the provisions of the rules and in a courteous, respectful manner.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoiding the use of abusive or profane language, taunting or humiliating remarks, and/or gestures and physical assault upon another player at any time.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team and display sportsmanship before, during, and after a game, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Follow all League rules and regulations.
- Arrive at practices ready to learn and properly prepared.
- As a member of Freestate, when on travel, players are expected to conduct themselves as ambassadors of good will and sportsmanship. As such, proper respect will be shown to the hosting city, club, opponents and officials on and off the fields.
- Show respect for the fields and equipment provided by the City of Bowie and/or Freestate Soccer Alliance. The use of the fields is a privilege and not a right.

**Disciplinary Actions for failing to adhere to the Code of Conduct could include, but is not limited to the following:**

- Verbal warning by administrative head of organization
- Written warning (not to exceed 3)
- Game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved
- Seasonal suspension
- Expulsion from organization

By registering to participate in any Freestate Soccer Alliance Program I understand and agree that any failure to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines may result in disciplinary action against me. You also agree to abide by the policies and procedures set forth by The Freestate Soccer Alliance Program. Any such action may include but is not limited to those actions described above. It is furthermore understood and agreed that the Freestate Soccer Alliance specifically reserves the right impose disciplinary action above and beyond those actions described above as may be appropriate based upon the circumstances of the violation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_