

# BERMUDA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Woodlands Road, Pembroke – P O Box HM 190, Hamilton HM AX, Bermuda

Telephone: 441-292-3161

## FOOTBALL CODE OF CONDUCT

PLAYER - COACH - PARENT



The Bermuda Athletic Associations' Code of Conduct establishes a clear set of guidelines for players, coaches and parents/guardians. Its' primary goal is to help ensure that soccer is a fun, positive and an enjoyable experience.

Our Code of Conduct is based on the concept of fair play, defined by four basic principles:

1. Respect for the rules of soccer (football)
2. Respect for the referees and their decisions
3. Respect for all participants, including team -mates, coaches and opponents
4. Maintaining self-control at all times

It is a condition of continuing Club membership that all participants understand and follow this Code of Conduct when participating in any Club activity. Please keep this Code of Conduct handy. It is to be followed at all times, by all members.

### Resolving Problems

If you are upset, we recommend you wait 24 hours and then determine if you wish to further pursue an issue. If so, talk to your coach privately. If you are unable to obtain satisfaction, contact the BAA Football Committee.

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## Player Code of Conduct

- I will play soccer because I want to, not because others want me to.
- At all times I will show respect for coaches, referees, team -mates, and opposing players.
- I will play by the rules of soccer, and in the spirit of the game.
- I will control my temper. I will not fight or use foul or abusive language.
- I will not bully or verbally abuse my teammates or my opponents.
- I will attend training and games without being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- I will not use illicit or performance enhancing drugs
- I will not act aggressively or violently towards teammates, other players, match officials, coaches or spectators.
- I will be a team player.
- I know that winning isn't everything - that having fun, playing fair, improving my skills, making friends and doing my best are all important.
- I will accept success and failure, victory and defeat with good grace. To do so without excessive displays of emotion towards other players, match officials, coaches or spectators.
- I will acknowledge all good play - that of my teammates and of my opponents.

## Games and Practices

- Games and practices are equally important.
- I will arrive at the field before practices and games according to the standards set by my coach.
- If I cannot make a game or practice, I will notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance so that arrangements for substitutes can be made.
- I will shake hands in a sensible and sportsman-like manner after a match.
- I realize that players who attend practices may get priority in the game starting line-up. Starting line-ups are based on several factors including attendance at practices, player's position, effort, and attitude.

## My Uniform

- The uniform is the property of the Club. I will take good care of it and wear it only on game days.
- I will replace my uniform if my coach or management deems it not in good condition.
- At practices I will wear appropriate attire, as set by the club.
- I will wear shin guards and appropriate footwear at all games and practices.
- Game jerseys are tucked in. Soccer players don't wear jewelry at games or practices.

## Discipline

- The team coach will handle infractions that occur at times other than during a game.
- Infractions that occur during the game are governed by the Laws of the Game and will be decided by the Referee. The result may be a Caution (yellow card) or Dismissal (red card), in which case there may also be further action by the league discipline committee.
- Certain serious infractions will result in a discipline hearing convened by the Bermuda Football Association. Payment of the fine is my responsibility.
- I am responsible for reimbursing the Club for any fines payable by the Club due to my actions or inactions.
- My coach/ assistant coach or other BAA coaches have the right to remove me from a game or practice.
- A member of the Soccer Committee or Board of Directors can also discipline a player.
- Infractions to the above could subject me to game suspensions and a fine of \$25 per Yellow Card and \$50 per Red Card or third Yellow Card. All fines must be paid in full before any player can play for the club again.

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## Coach Code of Conduct

- At all times I will show respect for my players, the coaching team, referees, parents, and opposing players and coaches.
- I will attend training and games without being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- I will not use illicit or performance enhancing drugs
- I will not use bad language.
- I will accept success and failure, victory and defeat with good grace. To do so without excessive displays of emotion towards other players, match officials, coaches or spectators.
- I will work in cooperation with referees for the benefit of the game.
- I will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
- I will ensure that all players receive equal instruction and support.
- I will provide each player with playing time subject to factors such as attitude, attendance, the weather, fitness levels, positions played, and the needs of the game. In particular, players on developmental teams should receive equal playing time (U7 – U11). During tournaments players may not receive equal playing time, this will be under the discretion of the coach.
- I will be on time and prepared for games and practices.
- I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules of soccer, referees and our opponents.
- I will be selective in the amount of instructions I give players during the game.
- I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' ages and abilities.
- I will be reasonable when re-scheduling games and practices, remembering that the players and their families have other obligations.
- I will obtain proper training and upgrade my coaching skills and knowledge of the game, according to the standards of the BFA and/or the Club.
- I will inform parents/guardians of any injuries their son/daughter may have suffered.
- I will dress appropriately at all games and practices, so that I present a professional image and can be easily identified.

## Discipline

- Infractions that occur during the game are governed by the Laws of the Game and will be decided by the referee. There may also be further action by the league discipline committee.
- Certain serious infractions may result in a discipline hearing convened by the Bermuda Football Association or their delegate, and could lead to an Island wide suspension from soccer, and/or a fine being levied by the BFA. Payment of the fine is my responsibility.
- I am responsible for reimbursing the Club for any fines payable by the Club due to my actions or inactions.
- Infractions to the above could subject me to game suspensions and a fine of \$25 per Yellow Card and \$50 per Red Card or third Yellow Card. All fines must be paid in full before any coach may attend any matches for the club again.

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## Parent Code of Conduct

- Through submitting the membership application for my child, I also am an indirect member of the Club, and am therefore subject to the Club's guidelines, and to the rules and regulations of the organizations to which the Club belongs.
- 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 referee's judgment, integrity or honesty.
- I will support all efforts to eliminate verbal and physical abuse from the game of soccer.
- At all times I will show respect for the players, the coaching team, referees, and opposing players and coaches.
- 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 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 of soccer and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Children learn by example. I will applaud good plays by both my child's team and their opponents.
- I will make sure that my child arrives for practices and games at the time designated by the coach.
- I realize that the team can be penalized for my behavior. I will obey a request by a referee or from the team's coach to leave the vicinity of the field.
- I will attend training and games without being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

## Discipline

- Infractions that occur during the game are governed by the Laws of the Game and will be decided by the referee. There may also be further action by the league discipline committee.
- Certain serious infractions may result in a discipline hearing convened by the Bermuda Football Association or their delegate, and could lead to an Island wide suspension from soccer, and/or a fine being levied by the BFA. Payment of the fine is my responsibility.
- I am responsible for reimbursing the Club for any fines payable by the Club due to my actions or inactions.
- Infractions to the above could subject me to game suspensions and a fine of \$25 per Yellow Card and \$50 per Red Card or third Yellow Card. All fines must be paid in full before any parent may attend matches for the club again.