



GAINESVILLE REGIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE - CODE OF CONDUCT

Forward: The purpose of the Gainesville Regional Soccer League (GRSL) Code of Conduct is to create and encourage ethical, fair treatment of all individuals and clubs that are in the membership of the GRSL. Some of the sections of the Code are more applicable than others to certain groups within the GRSL. However all are critical to the proper organization and running of the GRSL. The following Code of Conduct will apply to all GRSL members and persons participating in GRSL activities.

As a member of the GRSL and/or a participant you should meet the following requirements with regard to your conduct during any GRSL activity:

General Conduct of the GRSL

- Respect the human rights, dignity and the worth of others
- Be honest, fair, considerate, professional, and accept the responsibility for your actions
- Be aware of, and maintain at all times the standards, rules, regulations, and policies of the GRSL
- Operate within the Policies, Procedures, as well as the Rules and Regulations of the GRSL and IFAB
- Understand the possible consequences of breaking the GRSL Code of Conduct
- Report any breaches of GRSL Members to the Disciplinary Committee
- Comply with all Civic, City, County, State, and National legislation that applies to the GRSL
- Refrain from any form of abuse towards self and others
- Refrain from using any obscene language and gestures
- Refrain from any form of harassment towards others
- Refrain from any form of discrimination towards others
- Refrain from any form of victimization towards others
- Reject corruption, drugs, racism, violence and other dangers to our sport
- Promote soccer in the community
- Provide a safe environment for soccer to be played in Gainesville
- Show concern and caution towards others who could be sick or injured
- Be a positive role model for those watching you compete

Media Relations

Do not make comments to the media, or write any comment (including website material), on behalf of the GRSL. Do not speak to media in a negative fashion or publish any negative comment (including website material) regarding the GRSL. Never act in any way that may bring disrepute or disgrace to the GRSL or its members, sponsors, and or potential sponsors. Do not participate in sports betting or any form of Gambling associated with the GRSL in which you are participating or have been directly involved in.

Players, Contacts, Coaches, and Team, Code of Conduct

- Foul language and Gestures on the field is unacceptable; it only ignites anger and leads to conflict.
- Foul Language and Gestures, threatening behavior at or from the sidelines is unacceptable. The team captain(s) will be held accountable for the actions and words of those players on the bench and especially for the teams' fans who demonstrate unacceptable and antisocial behavior before, during and after a game.
- The team captain/contact (when same as player) should identify himself to the official at the coin toss. This individual should be respected and responsible enough to calm down irate players and should proactively attempt to diffuse heated situations.
- Players must demonstrate restraint and more importantly respect for the decisions of the officials, whether they agree or disagree. The officials are responsible for many things during a match, not the least of which is the safety of everyone at the match. If tension persists in GRSL matches we will see officials refusing to accept our matches. If availability of officials continues to drop the GRSL will need to make important decisions regarding cutting back the number of matches to suit the number of available officials.
- If you have a complaint about an official, PUT IT IN WRITING to the appropriate authorities. DO NOT APPROACH THE OFFICIAL DURING OR AFTER THE MATCH.
- The team captain or designate should assert his/her position with the team that he/she is the ONLY person to approach the official during or after a match to achieve clarification on a decision or rule of the match.
- SPORTING BEHAVIOR is one of the main objectives of the GRSL and persistent unsporting behavior can result in either a team or an individual being thrown out of the GRSL League. This league was founded on such sporting behavior in 1982, and is currently the largest adult league in the County.
- Continued unsporting behavior will be dealt with in an increasingly harsher manner.

The GRSL will assume that all of its Membership including; players, teams, clubs, referee's, administrators, coaches, contacts, volunteers, fans, etc will all understand the possible consequences of breaching the Code of Conduct and ensure that they abide by the Code. Any serious breaches of this Code of Conduct, or persistent violations of any aspect of the Code of Conduct, by any of the above may result in any of the following being imposed: Suspension, Current team payment will not be refunded, Additional team fines will be imposed, Fines, Loss of matches, Expulsion from league, or any other form of punishment determined by the GRSL Board of Directors.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRINTED NAME: _____