

NORTH TORONTO SOCCER CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE: North Toronto Soccer ("NTS") offers a rewarding soccer experience committed to the well-being and development of youth.

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that all participants have access to a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment. It outlines the Club's expectations that all participants conduct themselves in a manner that is free from maltreatment and consistent with the standards of behaviour set out in this Policy.

SCOPE OF APPLICATION: The NTS Code of Conduct Policy applies to all "participants" defined as athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, employees, contractors, board members, parents/guardians, and spectators where applicable.

All Participants are subject to and governed by the applicable policies, procedures, and complaint management processes of Ontario Soccer. Where a complaint falls within the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, the Ontario Soccer complaint process will generally serve as the initial process for the review and management of the matter, with NTS processes applied as appropriate and in accordance with Ontario Soccer requirements.

This Policy applies at all times where an individual's conduct may affect the NTS environment, including:

- competitions, training sessions, meetings, tournaments, camps, travel, and club events;
- electronic communications, emails, text messages, social media activity, and digital platforms;
- conduct occurring outside NTS activities where such conduct may reasonably harm the welfare of Participants or the reputation, operations, or integrity of NTS.

This Code works in conjunction with the FIFA Laws of the Game, [Ontario Soccer policies](#), [NTS Zero Tolerance Policy](#), [NTS Child Protection Policy](#), and is a reflection of our community and [NTS Values](#) as follows:

- Respect for:
 - Match Officials and their decisions.
 - Coaches, staff, and volunteers.
 - Teammates and opponents.
 - Parents, guardians, spectators and staff
- Safety: Prioritizing the physical and psychological well-being of all participants.
- Fair Play: Engaging in competitive sport with integrity and sportsmanship.
- The Commitment: *"The measure of a youth sports club is the quality of the citizens returned to the community".*

CODE OF CONDUCT - ALL "PARTICIPANTS" SHALL:

- 1) Uphold Standards: Abide by the [NTS Policies](#) and rules and regulations of Ontario Soccer, maintaining high standards of behavior.
- 2) Prohibited Behaviour - must refrain from any behaviour that constitutes a Prohibited Behaviour as defined by the [UCCMS](#) and this Code.
- 3) Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of other Participants by:
 - a) Treating each other with the highest standards of fairness, honesty, respect, and integrity;
 - b) Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of Athletes, Coaches, Officials, organizers, volunteers, employees, or other Participants;
 - c) Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, leadership, and ethical conduct. Do not engage in booing, taunting, or using profane language or gestures. Never engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct or conduct that could damage the reputation of NTS.
 - d) Acting, when appropriate, to correct or prevent practices that are unjustly discriminatory;
 - e) Ensuring adherence to the rules of the sport and the spirit of those rules

- 4) Zero Tolerance: Refrain from any behavior that constitutes abuse as defined in the NTS [NTS Zero Tolerance Policy](#)
- 5) Safety Compliance: Ensure players wear appropriate protective equipment (e.g., shin guards) and do not wear jewelry during play. *"To be a Nitro means taking responsibility for ourselves and our team. We show up prepared with our shin guards on, ready to put in the hard work. We believe in fair play, helping our teammates, and leading with encouragement. On and off the pitch, a Nitro always leaves a place better than they found it."*
- 6) Parents and Guardians are responsible for the conduct of their invited guests, family members, and spectators attending NTS activities on their behalf.
Conduct by spectators that violate this Code may result in sanctions against the associated player, parent, guardian, or spectator, including removal from facilities, suspension from attendance privileges, or other disciplinary measures.
- 7) Participants are expected to communicate responsibly and respectfully online. Conduct on social media or electronic platforms that undermines the safety, dignity, reputation, or well-being of others may result in disciplinary action.

Any violations of this policy will be managed in accordance with the [Ontario Soccer Code of Conduct and Process for Filing a Complaint](#) and the [North Toronto Soccer Club Discipline Policy](#).

REPORTING A CONCERN OR COMPLAINT

NTS is committed to ensuring a safe and positive environment. If you witness or experience behavior that violates this Code of Conduct, or if you have a safety concern, please report it through the following channels:

- Direct Email: report@northtorontosoccer.com
- Details to Include: When reporting, please provide the date, location, individuals involved, and a concise description of the incident.
- [Ontario Soccer - Alias Reporting Service](#)

Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability

Soccer involves inherent physical risks, including contact with balls, equipment, and other players, which may result in injury.

- Acknowledgement: I understand these risks and accept that NTS and its "Released Parties" (directors, officers, employees, volunteers, Ontario Soccer) are not liable for injuries or damages arising from participation.
- Waiver: I hereby release and hold harmless NTS and the Released Parties from any claims, causes of action, or liability for any injury, loss, or damage, including those caused by negligence.