



MILTON UNITED SOCCER CLUB

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Milton United Soccer Club is committed to providing all soccer players with a safe and supportive environment that fosters encouragement and personal development. Parents play a significant role in shaping their child's experiences in the sport, and the quality of the team experience is greatly influenced by parent involvement and relationships.

In this code, the term "parents" refers to both parents and guardians. This code applies to all parents who are members of Milton United Soccer Club or have children participating in the club.

This Code of Conduct applies to all parent behavior connected to Milton United Soccer Club activities, including in-person events, digital communication platforms, and any conduct occurring outside of club activities that negatively impacts the club environment, its players, families, staff, or operations.

Parents are expected to follow this Code of Conduct whenever attending any Milton United Soccer Club practice, game, or event.

Parent Expectations

- Parents are expected to conduct themselves responsibly, upholding the values of fair play, integrity, open communication, and mutual respect.

Determinations regarding inappropriate, disrespectful, or unacceptable conduct will be made at the reasonable discretion of Milton United Soccer Club leadership based on context, impact, and alignment with club values and policies.

- Parents should consistently model positive, responsible behavior and communicate to their child that they expect the same. Parents hold primary responsibility for their child's on-field conduct and attitude.
- Parents must treat all individuals and property with dignity, courtesy, and respect, including teammates, coaches, officials, volunteers, other parents, and all others associated with Milton United Soccer Club or affiliated organizations.
- Parents shall refrain from behaviors or comments that are profane, insulting, harassing, sexist, racist, abusive, disrespectful, or otherwise offensive.
- Parents should emphasize values such as sportsmanship, respect, cooperation, competition, and teamwork to their child, offering praise for fair play, participation, and skill development.
- Parents should set reasonable expectations for their child's participation in soccer, focusing on development and enjoyment.
- Parents should help build their child's confidence in their abilities and skill progression, avoiding comparisons with other players.
- Parents should celebrate their child's skill development and accomplishments.
- A parent's primary concern should be their child's overall growth and development.
- Parents should take an active interest in their child's progress, providing support for nutrition, rest, adherence to training, overall health, life balance, and moral and emotional encouragement.
- Parents shall ensure their child wears appropriate soccer clothing and equipment suitable for the field type. Cleats, futsal, and turf shoes should be used on proper surfaces, and shin guards must be worn. For players requiring glasses, sport spectacles should be worn during all active play, including practices, fitness sessions, and games.
- Parents must not provide alcohol or drugs to minors at any Milton United Soccer Club activity, event, or competition.
- Parents shall adhere to local laws regarding alcohol and drug consumption in public parks and facilities.
- Parents must always follow the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 regarding permitted smoking and vaping areas.
- Parents shall not provide or encourage the use of performance-enhancing drugs or substances.
- Parents should avoid any conduct that might bring Milton United Soccer Club into disrepute,

including behavior that negatively affects the club's reputation, safety, operations, or relationships among members.

- Parents are encouraged to uphold and support this Code of Conduct and help ensure that other parents also follow it.
- Parents shall adhere to the policies, procedures, rules, standards, and ethics of Milton United Soccer Club, the regional soccer association, Ontario Soccer, and Canada Soccer at all times.
- Parents must never promote profanity or violence at any Milton United Soccer Club practice, game, or event.
- Parents shall demonstrate tolerance and acceptance of diversity at all times.
- Parents should not approach coaching staff during practices, as this can disrupt both their team and other teams' training time.

Communication & Sideline Conduct

- All digital communication platforms used by Milton United Soccer Club teams (including but not limited to TeamSnap, WhatsApp, email, text messaging, and social media platforms) must be used in a respectful, constructive, and appropriate manner at all times.
- Parents shall communicate respectfully with coaches, team staff, players, officials, and other families when using any club-related communication platform.
- Profane, vulgar, aggressive, confrontational, defamatory, or inappropriate messages or comments are strictly prohibited on any team or club communication channel.
- Team communication platforms are intended for team-related information only and must not be used to air grievances, criticize individuals publicly, or engage in personal disputes.

Concerns must follow the club's established communication pathway: Parent → Coach → Technical Director/Club Administration.

- Parents shall request meetings with coaches through their respective team managers. The club follows a 24-hour rule for scheduling meetings before discussing concerns.
- Parents must demonstrate respectful behavior toward all other parents on the sidelines and at club events.
- Parents must not discuss, compare, or critique other players' performance, behavior, or abilities publicly or digitally.
- Parents should not provide coaching instructions unless directed by coaching staff.

Photography & Media Use

• Parents should not share photos, videos, or personal information of other players or families without explicit permission.

Milton United Soccer Club may capture photographs and video recordings during practices, games, and club events for coaching, development, promotional, and communication purposes. Such content may be shared through official club platforms, including the club website, social media channels, livestreams, or video-sharing platforms.

Participation in club programming constitutes consent to reasonable use of media unless a parent/guardian formally submits a written media opt-out request to the club.

Game play may be photographed or recorded by the club, league, or parents for personal use, development, and promotional purposes.

Parents and spectators may record games; however:

- **Content must be shared respectfully and represent players and teams positively.**
- **Videos or images must not single out, criticize, or embarrass any player, coach, or official.**
- **Personal information may not be shared without permission.**
- **The club reserves the right to request removal of inappropriate or harmful content.**

• Parents must not post or distribute content harmful to players, families, coaches, or the club.

• Failure to adhere to respectful communication standards may result in disciplinary action.

Compliance & Accountability

By registering a child with Milton United Soccer Club, parents/guardians acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by this Parent Code of Conduct at all times.

Prior to disciplinary action, the club may review incidents, gather relevant information, and provide the parent/guardian an opportunity to respond, except in situations requiring immediate action to protect player safety, wellbeing, or club operations.

Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action deemed appropriate by Milton United Soccer Club, including but not limited to:

- **Verbal or written warning**
 - **Removal from team communication platforms (e.g., TeamSnap, WhatsApp, or other club channels)**
 - **Requirement to attend a meeting with club leadership**
 - **Suspension from attending practices, games, or club events**

- **Temporary suspension of player participation where parent/guardian conduct directly impacts team safety, operations, or the playing environment**

- **Removal from the team or club without refund, in accordance with club policies**

Players and parents/guardians are responsible for any fines, penalties, or fees incurred as a result of their actions or conduct, including league discipline fines, referee sanctions, facility damage penalties, misconduct charges, or governing body disciplinary actions. Milton United Soccer Club will not be responsible for covering, reimbursing, or assuming responsibility for such fines or penalties.

Milton United Soccer Club reserves the right to take any action necessary to maintain a safe, respectful, and positive environment for all players, families, staff, and volunteers.

Purpose

This Code of Conduct is intended to create a positive, respectful, and supportive environment for all members of Milton United Soccer Club.

Parent Acknowledgement & Signature

I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the Milton United Soccer Club Parent Code of Conduct at all times.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____