



# NORTHERN EAGLES SOCCER CLUB

## SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

As a spectator at both juniors' and senior soccer matches, your behaviour contributes to creating a positive, supportive, and safe environment for players, coaches, officials, and fellow spectators. This Code of Conduct is designed to ensure that all soccer matches, regardless of age group, are enjoyed in a spirit of fair play, respect, and good sportsmanship.

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### 1. Respect for the Players

- **Encourage All Players:** Cheer for players on both teams, not just your own, and recognize good effort and sportsmanship from all players.
  - **Positive Support:** Always offer supportive, encouraging comments. Avoid criticism, negative remarks, or distractions. Let players focus on the game.
  - **Respect Players' Development:** Whether for juniors or senior teams, recognize that all players are at different stages in their athletic journey. Celebrate their growth, effort, and enjoyment of the sport, not just their performance.
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### 2. Respect for Coaches and Officials

- **Support the Coaches' Role:** Trust and respect the coach's decisions and instructions. Coaches are responsible for guiding the players, and their decisions should not be undermined or challenged from the sidelines.
  - **Respect Officials:** Always respect the referees and match officials. Their job is to ensure a fair game, and their decisions should be accepted, even if you disagree. Do not argue with or criticize officials at any time.
  - **No Verbal Abuse:** Verbal abuse or disrespect towards coaches, officials, or other spectators is not acceptable. Any concerns should be addressed calmly and through the proper channels, not during the match.
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### 3. Sportsmanship and Positive Behaviour

- **Model Good Sportsmanship:** Demonstrate respect and good sportsmanship by encouraging players, officials, and other spectators to do the same. This helps to maintain a positive atmosphere at all times.
- **No Taunting or Derogatory Remarks:** Do not engage in or tolerate any taunting, insults, or derogatory remarks aimed at players, coaches, officials, or other spectators. Healthy competition should always be the focus.



- **Celebrate With Respect:** While celebrating your team's achievements, do so with humility and respect for the opposing team. Celebrate fairly and avoid making anyone feel disrespected.

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#### 4. Respect for Other Spectators

- **Be Considerate of Others:** Be mindful of your fellow spectators by keeping noise levels appropriate and avoiding any actions that could disrupt others' enjoyment of the match. Allow everyone to enjoy the game and view it without distraction.
- **Encourage Respectful Behaviour:** Help create a respectful atmosphere by modelling positive behaviour and encouraging others to do the same. If you witness any inappropriate behaviour, address it calmly or report it to the authorities.

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#### 5. Adherence to Venue and Club Rules

- **Follow Venue Guidelines:** Respect the rules and guidelines of the venue. These may include rules on seating, parking, prohibited items, or any other local regulations. This ensures that everyone can enjoy the game in a safe and orderly manner.
- **Safety First:** Be mindful of safety at all times. Ensure children are supervised and always follow any safety instructions given by event staff or officials.

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#### 6. Health and Safety Considerations

- **Stay Calm in Case of Injury:** If a player is injured, remain calm and allow medical staff or officials to manage the situation. Do not rush onto the field unless directed by an official.
- **Respect Match Schedule:** Arrive on time for matches and pick up your child promptly after the match. Adhering to the schedule helps the event run smoothly and ensures players and coaches can focus on the game.

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#### 7. Promoting a Positive Atmosphere

- **Be a Role Model:** As a spectator, you are an important part of the soccer community. Set a positive example for younger fans and children by modelling good sportsmanship, respect, and positive behaviour.
- **Keep the Focus on Enjoyment:** Soccer is meant to be fun, whether for juniors enjoying their first games or seniors competing at a high level. Always remember that the goal is to foster enjoyment, learning, and team spirit—win or lose.



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### **8. No Tolerance for Discriminatory or Abusive Behaviour**

- **Commitment to Inclusion:** There is zero tolerance for any form of discrimination, racism, homophobia, or abusive behaviour. Respect all individuals regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or background.
- **Report Inappropriate Behaviour:** If you witness any behaviour that violates this code, report it immediately to an official, the match referee, or a club representative. Inappropriate conduct will be addressed and may result in removal from the venue.

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### **9. Consequences for Violating the Code of Conduct**

Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including being asked to leave the venue, temporary or permanent suspension from future matches, or other actions determined by the club or event organizers. Our priority is to create a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment for all involved.