



# **FAIR PLAY & SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY**

## **1. Purpose**

UFootballSC is committed to promoting a culture of fairness, respect, integrity, and positive competition. This Fair Play & Sportsmanship Policy establishes expectations for all participants, coaches, parents, staff members, volunteers, and spectators involved in academy activities.

The objective of this policy is to ensure that soccer remains a positive experience where development, enjoyment, respect, and character are valued above winning alone.

## **2. Fair Play Principles**

All academy participants are expected to embrace the principles of fair play by:

- Playing by the rules of the game.
- Demonstrating honesty and integrity.
- Showing respect toward others.
- Accepting decisions made by officials.
- Competing in a positive and ethical manner.
- Supporting a safe and enjoyable sporting environment.

## **3. Respect for Opponents**

Players, coaches, parents, and spectators must treat opponents with dignity and respect before, during, and after competitions.

Competition should be viewed as an opportunity for learning, growth, and development rather than conflict or hostility.

Unsportsmanlike conduct intended to embarrass, intimidate, or provoke opponents is not acceptable.

## **4. Respect for Match Officials**

Referees and match officials play an important role in the game and deserve respect at all times.

Participants are expected to:

- Accept decisions respectfully.
- Avoid arguing or confronting officials.
- Refrain from abusive language or gestures.
- Demonstrate self-control during disagreements.

Concerns regarding officiating should be addressed through appropriate channels after the event.

## **5. Positive Behaviour During Competition**

All participants should contribute to a positive game-day atmosphere.

Expected behaviours include:

- Encouraging teammates.
- Demonstrating self-discipline.
- Showing respect during wins and losses.
- Supporting fair competition.
- Displaying good sportsmanship at all times.

Negative conduct that damages the sporting experience for others is unacceptable.

## **6. Winning and Losing with Respect**

Success should be celebrated with humility and respect.

Defeat should be accepted with maturity and a willingness to learn and improve.

Participants should recognize effort, improvement, teamwork, and character as important measures of success.

## **7. Role of Coaches**

Coaches are expected to model fair play and sportsmanship through their actions and leadership.

Coaches should:

- Encourage respectful behaviour.
- Promote ethical competition.
- Prioritize player development.
- Demonstrate respect toward officials and opponents.
- Address unsportsmanlike conduct when it occurs.

## **8. Role of Parents and Spectators**

Parents and spectators contribute significantly to the sporting environment.

They are expected to:

- Provide positive encouragement.
- Respect players, coaches, opponents, and officials.
- Avoid sideline coaching.
- Refrain from negative comments or criticism.
- Support the values of fair play and sportsmanship.

## **9. Prohibited Conduct**

The following behaviours are inconsistent with the values of UFootballSC:

- Bullying or harassment.
- Verbal abuse.
- Discrimination.
- Intimidation.
- Aggressive behaviour.
- Retaliation.
- Deliberate cheating.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct.

Any action that compromises the integrity of the game may result in disciplinary measures.

## **10. Accountability**

All members of the academy community are expected to uphold the principles outlined in this policy.

Failure to comply may result in warnings, suspension, removal from activities, or other corrective actions deemed appropriate by UFootballSC.

## **11. Commitment to Positive Soccer Experiences**

UFootballSC believes that soccer provides valuable opportunities to develop confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, and character.

Through Fair Play and Sportsmanship, the academy strives to create an environment where every participant can enjoy the game while learning lifelong values that extend beyond the field.