# Kent City FC Coach/Parent/Player Contract

## “Code of Conduct”

**Coaches’ Principles of Conduct**

### Safety
1. The first responsibility is the health and safety of all participants.
2. It is recommended that coaches become certified in the basic first aid and are aware of their club, league or state requirements in this area.
3. Be prepared to handle first aid situations as well as medical emergencies at all practices and games, both home and away:
   - Have and know how to use a properly supplied first aid kit/ice
   - 911 emergency procedures/telephone location
   - Location of nearest emergency medical facilities
   - Always carry emergency medical release forms and team safety and information cards
   - Follow up all injuries with parents/guardians
4. Know and understand the Laws of the Game.
5. Inspect player’s equipment and field conditions for safety.
6. Utilize proper teaching and instructing of players regarding safe techniques and methods of play
7. Implement appropriate training programs to make sure players are fit for practice and competition.
8. Supervise and control players so as to avoid injury situations.

### Player Development
1. Develop the child’s appreciation of the game.
2. Keep winning and losing in proper perspective.
3. Be sensitive to each child’s development needs.
4. Educate the players to the technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level.
5. Implement rules and equipment modification according to the player’s age group.
6. Allow players to experience all positions.
7. Players need to have fun and receive positive feedback.
8. Practice should be conducted in the spirit of enjoyment and learning.
9. Provide the appropriate number of training sessions and games according to the player’s stage of development.
10. Strive to help each player reach his or her full potential and be prepared to move to the next stage of development.

### Ethics
1. Strive to maintain integrity within our sport.
2. Know and follow all rules and policies set forth by clubs, leagues, state, and national associations.
3. Work in the spirit of cooperation with officials, administrators, coaches and spectators to provide the participants with the maximum opportunity to develop.
4. Be a positive role model.
5. Set the standard for sportsmanship with opponents, refereed, administrators and spectators.
6. Keep sport in proper perspective with education.
7. Encourage moral and social responsibility
8. Just say no to drugs and alcohol.
9. Coaches should continue their own education in the sport.

### Playing Time
Coaches will distribute playing time by taking into account the nature and importance of each match in order to maximize both player development and team development, while still giving the team a chance to win. Coaches are asked to work with the Director of Coaching to rate each tournament/league and each match within each tournament/league and adjust playtime accordingly.
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<tr>
<th>Sideline Behavior</th>
<th>The role of the parent is extremely important for all young athletes. Whether it is training, during a game, or on the ride home, it is essential that there is positive feedback. At training and games, players should feel that they can perform what the coach is asking them to do and not what their mother or father is asking them to do. The youth soccer club is much like a school system in that there are many developmental aspects that have to be covered in order to get the eventual final product.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Attendance and effort at practice affects playing time.</td>
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<td>2. Playing time during most games and tournaments should be shared with all players.</td>
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<td>3. KCFC coaches and leaders will sometimes make decisions, and players may be instructed to do things, that parents may not understand. Parents and players may not always agree with coaching decisions, but in order to maintain a healthy team environment for all players and coaches, KCFC expects all parties to be respectful at all times.</td>
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<td>4. Playing only to win without taking into consideration other factors that are important to the health of the team and each of its players will not result in a solid foundation for either the team or the player and can have negative effects on team dynamics. More importantly, if the results are most important at the younger ages, then a player's technical development will suffer.</td>
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<td>5. Please respect the space and privacy necessary for your coach and team to carry out their game responsibilities. No one other than those listed on official game rosters may sit on or near the team bench during games.</td>
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<td>6. No one on the sideline should complain to officials or instruct players during or after a game. These instructions can be contrary to what the coach is teaching or has instructed the team to do. Instructions by parents can also be a distraction to young kids and may cause a player to &quot;tighten-up&quot; with stress. KCFC insists members of the coaching staff be the only instructive voice at all games and practices.</td>
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<td>7. Positive vocal support and encouragement are welcome during the game!</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
<td>All parents must adhere to the 48-hour rule: no communication for 48 hours following any incident. Our escalation policy: First to coach, then to Director of Coaching, then to Kent City FC board. E-mails to staff not consistent with our escalation policy will be ignored.</td>
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<td>Violations of the Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Actions that can be described as violations of the Code of Conduct are generally those type of actions that display a complete disregard of the principles of good sportsmanship. Violations that involve fighting are generally “red card” offenses and the member involved in such an incidence would be required to “sit out” a match or a week of practice and a match. Violations of abusive language may warrant a “yellow card” warning from the Disciplinary Board. Depending on the circumstance, persons involved, and the nature of the language abuse, a “red card” offense may appropriate and the disciplinary action would require the member involved to “sit out” a week or more and/or miss a match or more, up to suspension for the entire season or expulsion from the club. A coach striking a player would generally warrant suspension or expulsion from the Club. The severity or circumstances of the infraction would determine the severity of the disciplinary action. Repeated violations of the Code of Conduct by a Club member may warrant possible suspension from Club soccer functions for a season. This would include players or coaches receiving multiple red card violations pursuant to the Laws of the Game during the course of a season. If such violations are so flagrant or often repeated it may warrant banishment from the Club. Banishment is considered to be extreme and uncommon.</td>
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## “Code of Conduct”

| Unsportsmanlike Behavior | Actions that can be described as unsportsmanlike behavior should be avoided. When such actions are overt, repeated, or deliberate, they should involve some form of discipline. Often the most appropriate form of discipline is a “yellow card” warning. Such warnings can come from a Club official, or coach. If the unsportsmanlike behavior is reported to the Disciplinary Board, the Disciplinary Board shall issue a formal warning to the member to cease such actions in the future or risk expulsion from the Club.

Repeated unsportsmanlike behavior implies the same disregard for the Code of Conduct and should involve disciplinary actions that involve suspension. Such suspensions may be a “red card” type suspension of “sitting out” one game or if those unsportsmanlike behavior offenses continue after warnings or short-term suspensions then there would be cause for consideration of a suspension for the season or from the club. |
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<td>Financial Commitment</td>
<td>Nonpayment of registration and/or team fees may result late fees assessed or in player suspension or removal from the team.</td>
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| Refunds | All fees paid towards club memberships, league dues, uniforms, tournaments, and any other team expenditures will be considered non-refundable. Due to the not-for-profit structure of the club with all player payments going directly to soccer fees (e.g. league, tournament, uniform, etc), there will not be a large savings account; therefore, if a player is unable to continue with the club after making the commitment to play and making necessary payments, the player will not receive a refund for any part of the payment.

Refunds to be considered only if a player is leaving because either the family has moved out of the geographical area, or the player has suffered a season-ending injury. Any other acceptable reasons for a refund are approved on a case by case basis by Kent City FC. |
| Travel Policy | The highest standards are expected, players are representing Kent City FC everywhere they go. |

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to follow all of the rules and regulations set forth above:

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<th>Coach Signature</th>
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