

FDSA POLICY

SUBJECT: RECREATION LEAGUE (GUIDELINES FOR COACHES)

Adopted April 5, 1999

Revised January 23, 2002

Revised January, 2005

1. Fair and Equal Play

- 1.1 Teach athletes to play fairly and respect rules, officials, opponents and teammates;
- 1.2 Make every effort to give all players equal instruction, support and playing time;
- 1.3 Never ridicule or yell at players for making mistakes or performing badly. Remember children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves;
- 1.4 Make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athletes' ages and abilities;
- 1.5 Remember that children need a coach they can respect. Be generous with praise and set a good example;
- 1.6 Please remember that in order to develop well-rounded players it should be insisted upon that team members take turns to try playing all positions instead of specializing in one single position.

2. Partners in Soccer

- 2.1 The FDSA encourages coaches to continue upgrading their coaching skills. Coaches will be reimbursed for the cost of coaching clinics;
- 2.2 All games will be officiated by registered youth referees. Keeping this in mind, we ask that all coaches refrain from making unnecessary comments directed toward officials. Remember, they too need encouragement and positive feedback; however, in the case that any coach feels it is necessary to report any incident, please submit a written report to the appropriate director (boys', girls', coaching or officials');
- 2.3 The referee should report the game results to the appropriate source within 24 hours of the game's conclusion. However, we do ask all coaches to keep a record of all the games played, so that such a record can be submitted to the FDSA at the end of the season;
- 2.4 Remember that the more parents you involve with the running of your team, the more time you have to coach. Try to get someone to act as team manager.

Identify early in the season any parents who have medical backgrounds or first aid training.

3. Player Eligibility

- 3.1 Only players on the team sheet shall be allowed to play. No other party (e.g. visiting relations, younger siblings, registered players in other age groups) will be allowed to participate, even in the case where a team is short of players;
- 3.2 Division I competitive teams will be allowed to pick up recreation players in the event that they are missing players for tournaments or exhibition games. The Division I coach must get approval from the director of boys or girls recreation soccer in order to recruit a recreation player. After acquiring such approval, the competitive coach may contact the youth league coach, as well as the parent or guardian of the player. This mechanism must be adhered to in order to avoid any misunderstandings that may arise and, in due process, all necessary parties are informed of the selection;
- 3.3 The recreation league player shall be clearly informed, in advance, of the length of time (i.e. game or tournament) that he/she is to spend with the competitive team. If the player is needed for the remainder of the season, the appropriate director (coaching committee) once again must give approval. In the event that there is no Division I team, the Premiership team has the option of acquiring players from the recreation league ranks, as long as the same mechanism is used;
- 3.4 Any long-term absence of a player should be reported to the director of boys' or girls' who will in turn investigate and report back to the recreation league coach;

FREDERICTON DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION (FDSA)