

CENTRAL IOWA CO-ED SOCCER CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

Purpose: This Code of Conduct has been developed to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted participant and spectator behavior from that which is detrimental to the development of the sport of soccer and the growth of Central Iowa Co-ed Soccer League (hereafter referred to as CICS). CICS strives to provide recreational soccer opportunities to adults of all ages in a safe and fun atmosphere.

The term “Captain” shall include, but is not limited to, Team Representative.

Responsibilities to Participants

CICS has many participants, including, but not limited to, players, support staff, facility administrators, Executive Committee members and referees. As such, any CICS Captains responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Ensuring all players that fall under her/his responsibility are following the CICS Code of Conduct and CICS Rules at all times
2. Never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players
3. Instruct players to play within the written laws of CICS and within the spirit of the game at all times
4. Will not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior
5. Will not tolerate inappropriate behavior for players, regardless of the situation.
6. Set a high standard for sportsmanship and be a positive role model
7. Act with dignity and respect towards all participants, especially while on the field of play
8. Leave the fields trash free
9. Never encourage participants to violate CICS, Iowa Soccer Association (hereafter referred to as ISA), or Fédération Internationale de Football Association (hereafter referred to as FIFA) rules, guest player policies, nor disobey referees.
10. Under no circumstance is alcohol, tobacco, or drugs allowed nor tolerated while at any CICS game by any participant or spectator.
11. Players should be directed to seek proper medical attention for any suspected injury and at no time be forced to play while injured.

Captains responsible to report all incidents to the CICS Executive Committee.

12. Captains must ensure all required paperwork is done and all requirements met in accordance with CICS rules.
13. Adherence to all CICS and ISA rules and policies are mandatory and should never be violated. It is the responsibility of every Captain to know and understand these rules.
14. Help facilitate a safe and fun atmosphere for all league participants.
15. Treat all participants and spectators with respect and dignity.
16. Any problems that cannot be resolved between Captains should be referred to the appropriate CICS Executive Committee Member or the CICS Commissioner.

Responsibility for “The Laws of the Game”

1. Captains should be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the laws of the game of soccer. Captains are also responsible to ensure that their players understand the intent as well as the application of the laws.
2. Captains must adhere to the letter and spirit of the laws of the game.
3. Captains are responsible for their players’ actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
4. If Captains permit, encourage, or condone performance, which is not in the letter or spirit of the laws, captain is derelict in their responsibility to players, CICS, ISA and/or the sport worldwide, the Executive Committee may take whatever steps deemed necessary to protect the players, team, league, and/or association.

Responsibility to Officials

Officials include, but are not limited to, game referees, administrators, and field representatives.

1. Officials must have the support of Captains, players and spectators. Criticism of officials undermines their purpose in the game.
2. Officials should be treated with respect before, during, and after the game. Officials should be addressed as “Referee” and not by name. Professional respect should be mutual and there should be no

demeaning dialogue or gesture between official, captain, player or spectator.

3. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the CICS Executive Committee.

Responsibility Regarding Recruiting

1. It is disrespectful to recruit player(s) while they are registered on another team.
2. Coach and team representatives shall strictly adhere to ISA and league rules pertaining to recruitment.
3. Captains have an ethical obligation to be forthright and refrain from making derogatory remarks regarding other Captains, teams, and organizations when discussing the advantages of their organization.
4. It is unethical for any coach to make a statement to a prospective athlete, which cannot be fulfilled.
5. Allegations of illegal or unethical recruiting are very serious and should be based on concrete facts rather than hearsay and innuendo. Documentation of recruiting violations must be submitted in writing to the CICS Executive Committee.

Responsibility for Public Relations

1. Any request for public relations comments, media comments or news must be directed to the CICS Executive Committee before a response or advertisement may be issued.
2. Captains have the responsibility to assist their players in conducting themselves properly while representing their team, CICS, and ISA in public.
3. Comments blaming officials, organizers, players, etc. for a loss or unsuccessful endeavor are detrimental and should be avoided.

Game Day and Other Responsibilities

1. Captains' behavior must bring credit to their team CICS, ISA, and the sport of soccer.
2. Captains shall exhibit a respectful attitude towards players, officials, spectators, opposing players and Captains.

3. Verbal abuse or physical assault is unethical and shall be punishable by fines and/or suspension from the program at the discretion of the CICS Executive Committee.
4. Captains should use their influence to control the behavior of his players, parents and spectators. All Member Associations are directed to form their own Conduct & Ethics Committee and to hold hearings – WITH THE PARTIES HAVING THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT – on alleged violations of the CICS Code of Conduct when properly submitted in writing.

Zero Tolerance Policy

CICS has a zero tolerance policy for any threats or actions of violence against its officials, Executive Committee or its participants, and will be handled in a case-by-case scenario in accordance with the CICS rules and bylaws.

Free From Retaliation Reporting Policy

Any participant or spectator may report any behavior by any participant by reporting the incident, in writing, to the CICS Executive Committee, without fear of retaliation from the CICS Executive Committee or CICS participants.

Any participant found acting out of accordance with the CICS Code of Conduct may be subject to, but not limited to, fines, suspensions, or expulsion from CICS.

This document may be updated by the CICS Commissioner at will.
CICS Executive Committee Approved (09/16)