



Sting Timbers FC Player Code of Conduct

1. General

Sting Timbers FC members represent the club. They are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will reflect the high standards and ideals of their team, the club, and the community. Players who violate the Code of Conduct shall be subject to discipline. This code sets forth standards of conduct and penalties for improper conduct. Further provisions are set forth in the club's statement of policies for cautions and send-offs and the statement of policies for off-field conduct. The club has also adopted a statement of hearing procedures. Copies of the complete statements are available upon request.

2. Sting Timbers FC Player Code of Conduct

Rules of conduct enacted by the United States Soccer Federation, the Idaho Youth Soccer Association, and the Washington Youth Soccer Association or US Club (where they are involved), shall apply to the members of the club. Cautions (yellow cards) and send-offs (red cards), relating to conduct on the field of play, shall be issued by referees in their discretion, according to the FIFA Laws of the Game, generally without protest or appeal. In the absence of conflicting rules observed by such entities, the Code of Conduct for this club is as follows:

- A. Players representing the club in soccer activities must meet the dress and grooming standards deemed appropriate by the coach and club director. Coaches shall notify players of the expected standards, and shall be responsible for enforcement of such standards. Players shall wear team uniforms as designated by the club during all games. These uniforms shall be identical except for sizes, numbers and goal keeper's jerseys. Exceptions shall be subject to the approval of the club director.
- B. Players shall attend all scheduled practices, team meetings, games, and tournaments, unless excused by the coach. In any case, a player missing any required event shall notify the coach in advance.
- C. Players shall not display or engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, which shall include but not be limited to the use of obscene, vulgar, or profane language or gestures.
- D. Players shall obey curfews imposed by their coaches and/or chaperones.
- E. Players shall not engage in conduct detrimental to their team, the club, or the community. This will include conduct that is criminal or considered immoral by local standards as determined by the board. Specific examples include but are not limited to theft, destruction of property, assault, battery, and the use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
- F. Players will comply with the Sting Timbers FC anti-bullying policy. This includes maintaining a civil soccer environment for all players that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. "Harassment, intimidation or bullying," means any intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be

motivated by such things as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, mental, physical or sensory handicap, physical appearance, clothing or other apparel, socioeconomic status and weight, or other distinguishing characteristics when the intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act includes one of the following:

- Physically harms a player or damages a player's property
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a player's soccer experience at STFC
- Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening soccer experience, or
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of soccer related activities (practices, games etc...)
- "Intentional Acts" refers to the individual's choice to engage in the act, rather than the ultimate impact of the action(s).

Credible incidents of bullying shall first be handled at the team level, by the coach. If the issue cannot be resolved at the team level, the matter should be referred to the Parent Player Advocate for review and recommendation to the Board of Directors.

3. Enforcement and Penalties

The Sting Timbers FC discipline committee consists of the club board president, vice-president, parent player advocate, and the director of coaching. The players team coach will be asked to advise on each individual situation. The discipline committee will also take the actions of the player's parents into account. All enforcement of penalties will be kept confidential by the Sting Timbers discipline committee. Reports to the board, or other members of Sting Timbers FC will refer to general situations but will keep individual identities confidential.

A. On-Field Conduct, Cautions and Send-Offs, and Points

Yellow and red cards may be awarded by referees to signify misconduct of a player, coach, or team administrator on or near the field. These may pertain to behavior not only during a game, but also immediately before or after the game. The coach is responsible for tracking points. If a player or team's point totals become excessive, the discipline committee will intervene. The following is a summary of the impact of cautions (yellow cards) and send-offs (red cards). Points are recalculated each season.

Caution (Yellow Card):	One point assessed Not required to leave field, unless second offense
Send-Off (Red Card):	Three points assessed (Send-Off offense) One point assessed (Second Caution offense) Required to leave field for rest of game Suspended for next game
Point Accumulation:	3 points -- suspended from next game. 9 points – suspended until player petitions board at next scheduled meeting. 15 team points – hearing on coach

B. Off-Field Conduct, Hearings and Penalties

Upon a finding of misconduct, the disciplinary committee, may suspend the individual from

games and/or other club or team activities, or terminate his or her membership in the club. The club will not impose monetary fines or other sanctions which might be available under normal legal process.

A first offense involving conduct that is criminal or considered immoral will be punishable by a suspension. This suspension must include at least one game and should be no longer than 14 days. While suspended, the player is expected to attend all games and practices in proper attire. In the event of a second offense, the player must come before the discipline committee.

- C. Misconduct occurring during travel away from Kootenai County. The coach, Club Director(s), any member of the Board, any referee, and any Club Administrator shall have the authority to send the player home immediately at the cost of the player or his or her parent(s), by whatever means is deemed necessary to the person exercising this power, with due consideration for the traveling safety of the player.

4. Reporting Violations of the Code of Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings relating to alleged violations of this Player Code of Conduct may be commenced by any of the following methods:

- A. Accusations of misconduct brought by any parent or other adult, coach, referee, or other player having direct or otherwise reliable knowledge of the claimed misconduct. This individual must be willing to present evidence of the misconduct to the discipline committee
- B. Findings by the discipline committee, following investigation into any allegation of misconduct, where such investigation discloses the likelihood of a violation of the Code of Conduct
- C. Admission of misconduct by the player
- D. In the case of criminal conduct, the arrest of a player and/or the filing of an official report against the player by any law enforcement officer

We, the undersigned, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above Player Code of Conduct and related rules and regulations. We also agree to accept actions taken for failure to abide by the code.

Player

Date

Player's Parent

Date

Coach

Date