

Mini-Field Coach Information

The "Success of Coaching" should be measured by the enjoyment and skill improvement of players and the number of participants that look forward to returning each year.

Message from the Executive:

We thank you for your support. You, volunteering your time and talents allows the Club to offer soccer to the Greater Napanee Area. Without your support, the players would not be able to enjoy this great game.

EXECUTIVE CONTACTS:

President -	Todd Collard	gnsccpresident@gmail.com
Chief Referee -	Mark Powell	markapowell67@gmail.com
Registrar -	Anne Hogle	gnscc1984@gmail.com
U4 Convener	Jeff Blois	gnscctreasurer@gmail.com
U6 Girls Convener	Megan Macdonald	megan.macdonald01@hotmail.com
U6 Boys Convener	Sarah Collard	gnsccequipmgr@gmail.com
U8 Boys Convener	Todd Collard	gnsccpresident@gmail.com
U8 Girls Convener	Ian Bertling	ianbertling@hotmail.com
U10 Boys Convener	Trish Reid	gnsccpromfun@gmail.com
U10 Girls Convener	Brian Morris	23bozman23@gmail.com

GNSC club website

www.soccernapanee.com

- if you have an issue regarding coaching responsibilities, expectations, guidelines, etc., please contact your age group convener.
- if you have an issue regarding a call made by a referee, the rules, any disciplinary action, etc., please contact the Chief Referee.
- if you have an issue regarding a field or a piece of equipment please contact your age group convener.
- all other issues or concerns should be directed to the Club President
- a complete list of all executive members is available on our web site

General Meetings:

Meetings are held each month, if you would like more information about the meetings or would like to attend, contact the club president.

The Annual General Meeting is held in the off season. The date and time will be advertised ahead of time. Attendance at meetings is not mandatory however the meetings do keep you informed and connected to other volunteers and members.

Weather:

All players, coaches and the referee should show up at the game location regardless of the weather. If the weather or conditions are unplayable, hopefully the game can be rescheduled.

***THE REFEREE MAKES ALL FINAL DECISIONS REGARDING CANCELLING A GAME DUE TO WEATHER IN U10, U8 & U6 (once referees are used).
THE EXECUTIVE MAKES THE WEATHER DECISION FOR U4 AND U6 (before referees are used)

Playing Season:

*Season starts the week of May 7th, plus a festival May 12th.

- for U8 & U10 the first game is the week of May 14th, with a total of 12 weeks of soccer;
 - 1 practice and equipment hand out night week of May 7-11
 - 2 games at the festival May 12th
 - 2 or 3 games in May
 - 4 or 5 games in June (1 photo week*)
 - 3 or 4 games in July
 - festival July 28 or 29.
- U6 will have coach supervised scrimmages until May 30th when a referee will be added and games will begin.
- U4 does not have referees or organized games
- Mini field age groups will not have playoffs in accordance with the Ontario Soccer's long term player development model. These divisions will have a weekend festival at the end of the season
- *Please note for the photo week: the game should be paused for the photos. Please stay at the field until the photographer arrives.

Online Coaching Resource

An online coaching resource is available for GNSC coaches through our partnership with British Soccer Camps. The link is <https://www.thechallengerway.com/members/login>. Please visit the site and when you register use the code "CHALL18" in the "promo code" box to bring your price down to \$0.

L.T.P.D - Long Term Player Development

The Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) and Ontario Soccer have implemented a player development model that affects how we run recreational soccer. These changes are to bring soccer in Ontario more in line with models used in other countries. GNSC is implementing the program, some key aspects that may need to be communicated to parents include; 1. there will be no standings kept and goals scorers will not be recorded below U15. 2. U6, U8 & U10 will no longer have playoffs, it will be an end of year festival which is the term used to describe a round robin event where scores aren't recorded. 3. The executive would like to remind coaches that all players are required to have equal playing time in recreational soccer, and they should be rotating positions as well. This has always been the club policy, but it is now a rule.

Game Sheets:

“Score” sheets will now be called Game sheets and need to be completed in every division with referees. The executive understands that it may not seem very important to properly complete a game sheet but **It is extremely important for the protection of the club, the referee, and the coach to list every participant on the game sheet for U6 and older.** This is for insurance purposes. A player that isn't listed on the game sheet is not to play in the game.

The referee is responsible to return a copy of the game sheet to the drop box at the address below as soon as possible after the game:

110 RICHARD STREET

(across from the Funeral Home chapel)

Regarding Game Sheets:

*Home Team is the first team listed on the schedule for that night's game, for example '2 vs 7' - team #2 is the home team. The Home Team is responsible to complete the score sheet:

-information is to be filled out clearly with the date, Division, field, team names, coach's name, and all player names by half time.

-both coaches must sign the score sheet

-there is an area on the score sheet for comments (this is for injuries, if a referee does not show, if a game is rained out, if the game had to be called etc.).

-the Referee will check over the score sheet to ensure that all pertinent information is included before they sign it.

- the Referee will keep the game sheet to return to the Chief Referee or designate.

-final scores will be written on the game sheet by the referee so the executive can check if the teams are equal.

Team Lists:

Coaches must only use players on their team list. This is for insurance reasons.

Game Protest Procedure

This procedure is no longer needed for mini-field divisions. As there are no standings or playoffs there is no reason to protest a game. If an issue arises during a game please contact the appropriate club member.

Rules:

Coaches of mini-field teams play under LOCAL RULES using Ontario Soccer suggestions as a guideline, all mini-field coaches will be provided with a copy of these rules which vary by division.

Substitutions:

Substitutions "on the fly" are allowed in U4 & U6. In all other divisions coaches must have the permission of the referee...this includes when switching a goalie at half time.

For mini-field games substitutions will be granted on goals and goal kicks, and CAN be awarded on kick-ins and corner kicks at referees' discretion to the team in possession. The "defending" team can also request a substitution if the team in possession requests a substitution.

Fair Play:

The Greater Napanee Soccer Club strongly supports the principles of fair play and is committed to providing an environment that encourages personal and player development through a positive experience, regardless of age and level of play. Players, parents, coaches and team officials should at all times conduct themselves in a manner that respects the dignity of all participants.

Coaches are encouraged to bear this in mind if teams are unevenly matched.

a) "FAIR PLAY" RULES

"4 Up = 1Up"

* GNCS will be participating in the 4up-1up fair play program. This fair play initiative dictates that if a team gains a 4 goal advantage the team that is trailing adds one extra player to the field of play and continues to add a player for every additional goal above a difference of 4. If the team trailing scores, one player is removed. If the trailing team does not have enough players in attendance our traditional fair play rule shown next should be used.

When one team gains a 4 goal advantage ("lead"), they must remove one player from the field until such time that the score returns to a 3 goal advantage.

A team shorthanded must remove an additional player for each additional goal advantage up to the minimum players allowed on the field (7 players for a full field, 6 players for an intermediate field).

b) Ontario Soccer - Let us Play initiative

Ontario Soccer also has an initiative where teams must share players when needed to ensure both teams have enough to play the game. The result of this is that if teams have a difference of 3 or more players attending the number playing for each team should be balanced so all players attending can get equal time on the field. GNCS has had something similar to this for 3 years it is copied below;

* Coaches must also ensure that both teams play with the same number of players unless a player has been given a red card. This means that if a team is short players the other team should share players or play with the same number as the team with fewer players

Player Equipment:

- *to ensure all players receive a uniform that fits, please line up your players tallest/largest to shortest/smallest and hand out the uniforms accordingly.
- *all players receive a uniform and an information package.
- *the team uniform is shorts, black or jersey matching socks and the team sponsored jersey.
- *cleats and shin pads are mandatory for U6 and older (ensure that the shin pads are completely covered by socks)
- *shin pads are recommended for U4, cleats are up to the parent in U4
- *goalies (for U8 & U10) must wear a different coloured jersey (pinnie or shirt provided)

Team Equipment:

- *each team is provided with player uniforms, coach shirt, a ball for all team members, a goalie pinnie and 8 "disc" cones.
- *after the last game of the season, the coach will be responsible to hand in the equipment, this includes team balls, goalie pinnie, coaches shirt, cones, and any extra uniforms.

Slide Tackles:

The Greater Napanee Soccer Club will NOT be allowing slide tackling in house league play (that is from beside or behind the player).

Disciplinary Action:

- *Players receiving a 3rd caution during the season will receive a game suspension, and those receiving a 5th caution will receive a 2 game suspension.
- * Players awarded a red card will receive a one game suspension, and a 2nd red card will result in an expulsion from the league

First Aid:

Coaches shall render first aid to any player or other person requiring such help during a game to the best of their ability. If immediate medical attention is required beyond first aid the Coach shall get the parent (if available) or another responsible person to call for help.

Someone shall stay with the hurt person if at all possible. Record the information of who was involved the type of injury and action taken on the game sheet.

*****Referees are to bring Club First Aid Kits to the field, however, the Referee is NOT responsible for administering any First Aid.**

Injury Reports

Coaches are asked to complete one of the provided injury reports if an injury occurs to one of the players on their team during their scheduled game or practice time. These reports are part of the insurance protection for the club and also protect the coach. Details are on the form.

Player Rating System:

Information is needed in order to make the teams as fair and even as possible, which ultimately is more fun for the players. Information on goal scorers will no longer be kept, so the coach of each team will need to provide accurate ratings for their team. More information such as what positions players like to play and are good at in order to level out the playing field is another good information tool. The Club does not want to have a team that runs away each week scoring lots of goals, nor do we want to have a team that is continuously losing by a large margin. Each year there are always players who sign up for the first time and do really well. There is little control in this situation.

*Coaches are asked to fill out a player rating sheet at the end of the season. This will be done at the end of year festival or by email. Each player will need to be rated 1 to 5 with 1 being low. A player should get rated as a 1 if they do not attempt to participate in the game and a 5 should be used only for a player that you would consider to be one of the best 5 or 6 in the age group.

Coach Agreement:

I agree to not put myself in a position of being one on one with an underage member of the Greater Napanee Soccer Club nor give a ride to an underage member of the GNSC without the Parent's or Guardian's consent. The GNSC recommends that you avoid transporting team members (other than family). I understand that participating in organized soccer is at my own risk and that the Greater Napanee Soccer Club, its Executive, Coaches, Managers, Officials and/or Sponsors will not be held responsible for any injuries. I agree to hold the GNSC harmless for all actions, liabilities arising out of the activities of The Club.

Coaches Responsibilities:

- (1) to provide an atmosphere for learning the skills and enjoyment of the game of soccer
- (2) to strive to give all players equal time on the field of play
- (3) to set out and take in corner flags/saucers and nets on fields (the referee should not start the game until all goals and saucers/corner flags are in place)
- (4) to bring an inflated ball
- (5) to ensure that the game sheet reports a match report which includes all participants, injuries, information on any disciplinary action taken against players and/or team officials, and any other incidents which occurred before, during or after the match
- (6) to ensure the actions of players are appropriate during a match
- (7) to bring forward events at matches that require review
- (8) to assist the referee in asking co-operation from parents and spectators
- (9) to not question referees calls during play (discuss at half time or at the end of the game)
- (10) to distribute uniforms at the start of season and turn in equipment at the end of season
- (11) to fill out the player rating sheet for the team at the end of the season
- (12) to phone players, if games are cancelled or rescheduled
- (13) to coach U4, U6 and U8 on the field during the game to give direction to the players

Emergency Coverage, Parental Assistance and Holiday Replacement:

- cultivate parents into assisting you, the best time to do this is the first night of soccer
- some areas where parents can be involved are:
 - emergency cover person.** One parent will need to be designated to cover the team if an emergency arises and you can't make it at the last minute.
 - score sheets - they can fill them out during the game with all essential information
 - managing substitutions - allows the coach to concentrate on the action on the field
 - setting out and bringing in the nets, cones/corner flags
 - being linesmen during the game for when the ball goes out of bounds
 - holiday replacement or covering for coaches who do shift work
- plan early and get your replacements and assistants involved with the team.
- Send an email to the convener of your age group that lists your emergency person and any assistant coaches

Helpful Hints for Coaches:

- Start the season with a letter to parents - sets the tone, explains your goals, the plan for the season and will prevent or eliminate many issues that can arise. You can quote sections of the parent responsibilities if needed. A sample is attached at the back of the package.
- Have a plan - Coaches will be provided with weekly session plans.

Parent's Responsibilities:

1. to bring players **on time** to practices and games
2. to provide proper equipment
3. to bring water bottle to games and clean up after games
4. to encourage players from the sidelines
5. to ensure the actions of the player is appropriate during a match
6. to assist the coach where possible with game sheets, line changes,
7. keeping players in the area the coach defines as the bench area for the team .
8. to help out the coach when possible for coach's holidays or shift work.
9. please do not interfere with coaches instructions, please **do not yell out instructions** to your child - your child recognizes your voice over the coaches and this may distract your child from carrying out the coaches instructions
10. to never argue with the coach or referee during the game.

Players Responsibilities:

1. to come to the game each week with a good attitude, ready to participate and have some fun
2. to obey all rules, bylaws and operating regulations of the Greater Napanee Soccer Club
3. to show respect to all players, coaches, referees, parents
4. to listen to the coach
5. to not argue with the referee (talk to your coach if you have a concern about a call)

Referees Responsibilities:

- (1) it is the responsibility of each Referee to read the rules (laws of the game) provided and make every effort to officiate to the intent of the rules (if you have any questions or it is not clear to you, please call the Chief Referee or designate for clarification)
 - * Local Mini Soccer Rules applies to the mini soccer fields
- (2) will inform the Chief Referee or his designate if you cannot make it to a game, this should happen at least 48 hours prior to the start of the game (Referees shall not change their assignments without approval of the Chief Referee or his designate)
- (3) be at the field at least 15 minutes before the game starts.
- (4) must wear provided uniform and soccer cleats when refereeing a game.
- (5) check the fields, nets, players equipment, etc. (it will be your job to ensure that all nets are in place, and cones/corner flags are in position before the game starts - if equipment needs repair, write it on the score sheet.
- (6) makes sure that all players are wearing cleats and shin pads in the U6, U8, U10, U12, U15, U18, and U21 Divisions, ensuring that the shin pads are completely covered by socks.
(if they are not-the player is not allowed on the field until they are)
- (7) makes sure that no watches, dangling earrings, rings with raised stones, etc. are being worn by any players.
- (8) will hand to each coach a flag (the coach will hand off this flag to a parent, spectator, etc. who will be responsible for raising the flag to the attention of the referee whenever the ball goes out-of-bounds along the sidelines - the Referee will decide which side receives the ball
(if the Referee does not see the ball go out-of-bounds he/she may ask the person with the flag, who last touched the ball)
- (9) will be timekeeper for the game
- (10) will keep track of goals scored by each team as well as any injuries, disciplinary action taken, problems with players, parents or coaches, etc. and will call the Chief Referee to keep them informed of what is happening on the field so that they can deal with any issues which may arise as soon as possible.
- (11) will ensure that all pertinent information is included on the score sheet
- (12) will fill in the lower portion of the score sheet with name, final score and field # before signing and validate the score sheet totals.
- (13) The Referee will keep the top copy of score sheet to return to the Chief Referee or designate and will give the winning team coach or designate the second copy.

Powers & Duties of the Referee:

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed:

- *enforces the Laws of the Game
- *stops, suspends or terminates the match, at his discretion, for any infringements of the Laws or any outside interference of any kind
- *the decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final
- *the referee may only change a decision provided that he has not restarted play.**