

Durango Rapids SC Parent Code of Conduct

The philosophy outlined below emphasizes that soccer belongs to the players. Parental excitement must be positive and controlled. Uncontrolled or abusive parental behavior is not accepted.

1. Core Philosophy

- Recognize that the **game is for the children**; their participation and enjoyment are the most important elements.
- Understand that your role is to **support, not to direct or critique**, the play on the field.
- Your number one job is to fill your player's emotional tank and encourage them regardless of the outcome.
- Be gracious in victory and dignified in defeat.
- Familiarize yourself with the laws of the game.
- Parents represent the Durango Rapids SC at all events and are expected to uphold the club's reputation with respect and integrity.

2. Positive Support (I WILL)

- **Always be respectful players, parents/spectators, coaches, and officials.**
- Provide **only positive support** during games.
- Keep all communication on TeamSnap or team platforms positive and informational only.
- Support the team with encouragement and **will not instruct the players**, as this may cause confusion and undermine the coach's efforts.

3. Prohibited Behavior (I WILL NOT)

- **Refrain from making any comments to the game officials, players, parents/spectators, coaches, or opposing officials.**
- Refrain from any negative body language, shouting, or gestures toward players, coaches, or officials.
- Coach my child from the sideline.
- Criticize a coach in a public manner.
- Use abusive or profane language.
- Consume alcoholic beverages or drugs at the fields of play.
- Bring dogs or other pets to any fields or property surrounding the fields (unless trained for special assistance).
- Do not use team communication platforms (e.g., TeamSnap, group texts, or social media) to share grievances or complaints.

4. The Car Ride Home (New Section)

- The car ride home is the time to ask your child if they had fun, tell them you are proud of them, and check for health issues.
- The car ride home is **not** the time to analyze, recap, or provide feedback on their or the team's performance.

5. Communication Protocol

Discussions concerning a child should be handled with the following timeline and chain of command:

- Do **not** approach the coach immediately prior to, during, or directly after a game for discussions about playing time, position, or other sensitive concerns. Schedule another time to discuss.
- Discuss issues **only with the coach first**, at a time mutually agreed upon.
- If the issue is not resolved, escalate the concern to the Directors of Coaching **after a 48-hour cooling-off period** following the incident or the initial discussion with the coach.
- Do **not** discuss issues with the manager or any other parent.

6. Pledge and Enforcement

- I pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child and to place their emotional and physical well-being ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will set a good example by treating all players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- The Board of Directors and Directors of Coaching will suspend any person contributing to unsportsmanlike behavior.

Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____