



Florida United

Players, Parents Roles & Responsibilities

Parents and guardians, assume primary responsibility for the wellbeing of their child, and therefore have a duty to ensure that all their basic needs are met while they participate in soccer activities. You also have a responsibility to teach your children values such as: Participation, Enjoyment, Fair Play, Respect and good sportsmanship.

It is also your duty to explain to your child the Code of Conduct set out by the club to ensure they understand, agree and sign up to these codes.

Parent's code of conduct

As primary care givers for their children, parents and guardians assume overall responsibility for the positive development of their child and therefore have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner which supports this process. Florida United expects all parents and guardians to promote the positive aspects of soccer by demonstrating exemplary behavior at all times – this includes encouraging their child's participation in the game, demonstrating respect for staff and officials and behaving responsibly on the side lines.

While Soccer can evoke very passionate emotions and reactions, these emotions and reactions should always be positive rather than negative. This includes refraining from arguing on the sidelines or engaging in any form of abusive behavior to other parents, coaches, referees or opposing players. This extends to the use of social media to make, provoke or respond to abusive, threatening or other inappropriate behavior.

Why do children and young adults play soccer?

- To be with their friends / make new friends
- To have fun
- To learn new skills
- To score goals
- To be part of a team
- To build confidence
- To become a college or professional player.

Positive soccer parent

Are you a positive parent or guardian? Parents and guardians play an essential part in encouraging and supporting their child's participation in soccer. Many of you also contribute by helping as volunteers at the club, running fundraising events or helping with social media sites. You can be the positive role model by adopting a positive approach to your child's involvement. This includes promoting values such as fair play and respect.

Negative soccer parents

There are times when parental behavior is much less positive which makes it difficult for children to enjoy or even continue to take part in soccer. Sometimes parents or guardians may not initially recognize or realize that they are behaving in a negative or abusive way.

- Unnecessary pressure to win
- To be shouted at
- To be embarrassed
- To feel humiliated
- Conflicting messages from coaches and parents
- To be isolated from their friends because of their parent's / guardian's behavior.
- Criticize and shout abusive comments at officials, other spectators or coaches
- Encroach on the field of play, physically intervene, or disrupt play
- Encourage foul play or rule breaking
- Contradict the advice or guidance of the coach
- Define their child by their talent and success alone
- Demand that their child sacrifices 'fun' activities for 'serious' training.

How does this affect children and young adults?

It is important to understand and acknowledge how negative parental behavior affects children and young adults. Children and young people tell us:

- "I get really scared when they are all shouting at me"
- "Dad thinks he's helping – but he just puts me off my game"
- "When mom or dad starts yelling from the side, I feel so embarrassed"
- "It doesn't matter if I played well - if we lose, they don't even talk to me"
- "The car ride home is the worst part of sports"
- "It's confusing when the coach says do this, but dad says do it different"
- "When I don't do as well as I should I know mom or dad feels I've let her down – even if she doesn't say it"

How to be a positive soccer parent

- Support your child enthusiastically
- Encourage your child without expecting perfection
- Be a good role model – to children and other parents
- Promote respect and fair play
- Acknowledge the efforts of all the children
- Encourage your child to play by the rules
- Support the coaches and officials (particularly young officials)
- Encourage other spectators to be positive
- Challenge or report poor sideline behavior
- Allow the coaches to coach
- Support and respect your child's ambitions in soccer
- Remember that this is your child's soccer experience – not yours
- Celebrate and support your child as a whole person who needs a range of experiences both inside and outside soccer.

Parent Education Materials: Every family (both parents) should watch the video and read the documents that are accessible via the two links below.

Please watch this video: <https://youtu.be/vAMSDu08UsI>

How to contact the coach?

Players and parents must send an email to their assigned team coach outlining the specific topic you would like to discuss. The coach will respond via email with his/her thoughts on the matter and the coach will decide if any further discussion is warranted. When appropriate, the coach may request a phone call or an in-person meeting with the player and parents. Players and/or parents are not permitted to text or call the coach frivolously. Parents are not permitted to walk up to the coach after training or games to discuss their child's playing time, the game or soccer in general.

How to communicate with referees

Players and/or parents are not permitted to show dissent, behave in a negative or abusive manner towards any game official.

Where to sit during training

Parents are not permitted to sit on the sidelines or goal lines during training. At the Bamford Park Turf field parents may not sit closer than the concrete walkway. At the Bamford Park Grass fields parents may not pass the fence at the south side parking lot. Parents are permitted to exercise in the park.

Where to sit during games

Parents are only permitted to sit directly facing our team bench between the half line and the corner flag along the sideline. Sitting along or behind the goal lines is not permitted.

How to communicate on the sidelines & comments made generally

Parents are not permitted to coach their child or any other player during the game. Parents can cheer for the team. Parents must support the Florida United missions to facilitate a safe, fun and healthy environment for all the families who participate in the Girls Academy and the Development Player League activities.

Florida United performance objectives

To guide and challenge each player in our club to achieve their full potential.

Player responsibilities

Players should always come into preseason training fit and technically sharp at a comparable standard to the top 25 teams around the country (national Girls Academy and the Development Player League standards). Players should come prepared to show a good performance based on the fitness packet performance times, technical skills videos and position specific team tactical principles videos. Every player should show a high level of ability to play out of pressure in addition to having an extremely high work ethic. Players whose performance does not meet the club standards in training and/or games should expect their playing time to be affected. If your performance level drops i.e., your speed of play and fitness levels decrease below the established club levels, you will lose playing time. Girls Academy players whose performance levels drop below the league standard or are returning from injury may be placed on a Development Player League team to get additional game opportunities. Development Player League players whose performance is at the national Girls Academy league standard can be invited to train and play with the Girls Academy teams to further their development. The decision to play up or down is at the sole discretion of the Executive Director.

Player Code of Conduct

When playing soccer, I will:

- Always play to the best of my ability
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time
- Respect my teammates, the other team, the referee and my coach/manager
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee
- Acknowledge the other team i.e. ("say good game") and referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach tells me

I understand that if I do not follow the Code of Conduct any or all of the following actions may be taken by my club:

I may:

- Be required to apologize to my teammates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training and or games
- Be required to leave the club.

Club Commitment

All players are expected to attend all training, league games and showcase/play-offs which ends mid-late June each year.

Medical Treatment / Policy

Communication:

- The athletic trainer's responsibility is to communicate medical concerns and recommendations related to athletic injuries. We are partnered with U18 Sports Medicine.
 - If further evaluation is determined to be needed, appointments will be set for the athlete to be seen by a physician.
 - If your child is seen by a physician for anything soccer related issues/injuries, please make provide athletic trainer with a copy of the "Visit Notes". You may send me a picture or copy/scan and email.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. Below is the contact information for our Florida United Athletic Trainer:
 - TeamSnap: Michaela Seckarova
 - Email: michaela.seckarova@flunited.com
 - Office Phone: (954) 302-8788

Setting Up Dragonfly Account:

- For your child to receive treatment, your DragonFly account must be completed.
 - This is used as our medical records tracking system.
 - Below is a link with instructions on how to use DragonFly:
 - [The Parent's Guide — DragonFly \(dragonflymax.com\)](https://www.dragonflymax.com)
 - When prompted for “School Code” please input “BLB9D8”
 - Complete the account and input any necessary information (special considerations, allergies, etc.) that the staff should be aware of.
 - Once you create an account make sure you fill out and sign the “U18 Sports Medicine Consent” form. If this is not completed, treatment cannot be provided.

Setting up appointments in the Athletic Training Room (ATR):

- The ATR is used for evaluation of injuries, rehabilitation of injuries, injury prevention purposes, necessary prehab and any other sports medicine purposes.
- Our goal is to make sure every athlete is healthy and strong to play. If your child needs to be seen for any reason, please make sure to set up an appointment.
 - Appointments are necessary for evaluation of injuries and treatment longer than 10 minutes.
 - Appointments are not necessary for taping, first aid, and injury during practice/games.
 - Treatments usually last 30-45 minutes so please schedule accordingly.
- **Scheduling appointments:**
 - A google form is used to schedule a time slot to be seen during the week. Below is the link to sign-up:
 - <https://forms.gle/YMgtwmUGfZnUbnp9A>
- **During appointment:**
- **Masks are Required in the ATR**
 - Upon entering the ATR room there will be a QR. Your child will put their camera phone up to and it will open a link. The link will ask for basic information about the purpose of the appointment and the team they are a part of. Below is the link to see what this form looks like:
 - <https://forms.gle/SHmCxZTxyzHH4r1A>

Please sign below to confirm you understand and agree to follow the rules, roles, responsibilities and performance expectations set forth by Florida United. This agreement must be signed by the parents, players and submitted to Jerome Samuels no later than August 20, 2021. Failure to comply will result in a loss of training and playing time until compliance is met.

Player Signature _____

Parent #1 Signature _____

Parent #2 Signature _____

Date _____