



Guelph Minor Football Association
100 Crimea St., Guelph, ON N1H 2Y6
E: info@guelphminorfootball.net
Website: guelphminorfootball.net

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Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy

Youth football can be a positive and rewarding experience for young athletes, coaches, and parents alike. It provides opportunities for personal growth, physical development, and valuable life skills such as teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship. However, with the privilege of participating in youth football comes a responsibility to uphold the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. Guelph Minor Football Association recognizes the importance of promoting a safe, positive, and respectful environment for all participants in youth football. Therefore, this Code of Conduct Policy has been established to outline expectations for all individuals involved in our programs and to provide guidance for resolving disputes or violations of conduct.

Our Code of Conduct policies detail GMFA's expectations for coaches, players, parents, and spectators, and outlines procedures for reporting and investigating potential violations. Adherence to the policy is mandatory. The goal of this policy is to promote the safety and well-being of all participants and to create a positive and rewarding experience for everyone involved. Appropriate conduct is critically important in youth sport. Rowdy behavior at youth sporting events has made headlines for years.

To review GMFA's Code of Conduct policies for Players, Parents and Coaches, as well as our Social Media Policy, please go to <https://guelphminorfootball.net/policies/>

If you have a concern, please email GMFA's SafeSport contact (SafeSport@guelphminorfootball.net)- all matters are dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

Alleged incidents that contravene our Code of Conduct policies will be managed in accordance with our investigative process.

Behaviour that contravenes these policies will be subject to disciplinary action, including but are not limited to:

- Written documentation of incident (kept on file)
- Verbal warning by GMFA official or head coach
- Written warning (kept on file)
- Game suspension
- Season suspension
- Lifetime ban.

Note that repeated violations will result in an escalation of disciplinary actions. Likewise, **violent behaviour will not be tolerated** and will result in an immediate escalation of disciplinary action.

Harassment and Abuse Policy

GMFA believes in the principle of respect for all participants in football regardless of their connection to the sport. Fundamental to this principle is the basic assumption that each person has value and is worthy of respect. As a member of the Ontario Football Alliance (OFA), we follow the same Abuse Policy adopted by the OFA from Football Canada. It can be found [here](#).



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Protection for whistleblowers

A whistleblower is a person who voluntarily provides information to the Guelph Minor Football about a possible past, present, or future violation of our Code of Conduct.

If you believe that a person (be it a Coach, Player or Spectator) has violated (or intends to violate) our Code of Conduct, we encourage you to email GMFA's SafeSport contact (SafeSport@guelphminorfootball.net). All matters are dealt with in the strictest of confidence. We will keep your identity confidential throughout the investigation.