



Gibbons Minor Soccer Association

Parent / Referee Liaison

Applies to the U10 and Above

This Program was developed and established by the Winnipeg Youth Soccer Association. Tri-County has made the decision to adopt this program. (This document was adapted from the Athabasca Soccer Association)

Referee abuse and harassment by spectators and coaches is one of the central reasons why referees, particularly those in their early teens, drop out of officiating resulting in a severe shortage of referees at all levels. This unacceptable behavior towards our youth must be addressed as a priority if soccer is to have an adequate supply of referees.

All teams must designate an individual (does not have to be the same person for each game) at each game (home and away) to act as a referee liaison. The referee liaison of each team shall be a person who is not a team official (coach/manager) and their main role will be to act as a deterrent to possible acts of misbehavior by spectators or team officials. The referee liaison will also be available to the referee should a request to do so be made or if a potential problem exists.

Description of Referee Liaison Duties

Each team shall provide a referee liaison that shall:

- Be identified with a referee liaison armband (fluorescent orange tape) provided by their team.
- Be identified on the game sheet as the referee liaison.
- Introduce themselves on the spectator side of the field (and the referee/assistant referee)
- Monitor the behavior and deal with inappropriate comments, gestures and/or general unsporting behavior directed at the referees, linesmen, players, or any other individual by their teams' spectators.
- Quickly diffuse potential problems before they arise by either being visible or calmly speaking with the individual(s) involved.
- Be **visible** and **available** to assist the referee particularly at half time and full time.
- The Parent Liaison has FULL authority to ask any spectator causing an issue to leave the field. The dismissed person will be requested to a Tri-County hearing before they would be allowed back at the field.
- Submit a brief report in writing to **Gibbons Minor Soccer** committee of any incident that you feel Gibbons and/or Tri-County should be aware of involving inappropriate behavior by ANY individual.



Parent / Referee Liaison

1. **I have read and I will follow and respect the Parent/Referee Liaison program; under no circumstance will I overlook this policy.**
2. I will respect the authority of the Coach and Referee and their Assistants.
3. I will not harass abuse or berate any Coach, Referee, Player or Parent before, during or after any practice or match.
4. I will ensure that my child complies with Tri-County and ASA Rules and Regulations that stipulates shin guards and cleats or running shoes are to be worn at all times. Failure to do so will result in my child not being allowed to participate in the practice or game.
5. I acknowledge and respect that the coach is a **VOLUNTEER** who has committed their time for the sake of my child.
6. I acknowledge that there may be times where the coach, program coordinator or other executive member may require my assistance and I agree to comply with their request to the best of my ability.
7. I acknowledge and accept that parental supervision is required for my child at all times. I must remain on school property for the duration of the practice or game. If I cannot attend, I will notify the coach and will appoint a guardian to act on my behalf. I also acknowledge and accept that Gibbons Minor Soccer Association, its coaches, program coordinators, executive members or sponsors are not responsible for the supervision of my child if the event is called due to weather, *during* or after the scheduled event time, or for any other unforeseen circumstance if prior arrangements have not been made.
8. I will notify the coach if my child will be away.
9. I will encourage my team, cheer in a positive manner and will not berate the opposing team.
10. I will encourage fair play.
11. I will not use foul or abusive language towards anyone for any reason.
12. I will demonstrate the utmost in sportsmanship and integrity as an example for my child.

Note:

Parents are required to sign a Code of Conduct before their child will be a registered player of the Gibbons Minor Soccer.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (PRINT)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

CHILD'S NAME and AGE GROUP

Date