

## GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT BETWEEN ADULTS AND CHILDREN

## **Appropriate Conduct**

Any adult involved in Viktoria Soccer Club youth program delivery should behave towards minor athletes in a manner that they would themselves as minors would hope to be treated and as they would expect other adults to treat children of theirs. Their conduct should be such that if observed by any child's parent and recorded in detail by audio and video, it would be seen as supportive of the child athlete's development and not subject to censure. Adults should:

- 1. demonstrate respect for the rights and dignity of all minors involved in soccer, regardless of their gender, race, religion, culture, or ability.
- 2. communicate with minors in a clear and age-appropriate manner, using language they can understand.
- 3. ensure that all interactions with minors are open and transparent, and that other adults are present when necessary.
- 4. promote and encourage fair play, team spirit, and good sportsmanship at all times.
- 5. provide positive feedback and constructive criticism in a manner that is supportive and encourage development.
- 6. recognize the importance of a minors's safety and well-being, and act in their best interests at all times.
- 7. follow all Canada Soccer rules and regulations and Viktoria policies, rules and guidelines related to child protection and welfare, including reporting any suspected abuse or neglect.
- 8. respect the privacy of children and young people by not sharing personal information or photographs without their parent's consent.

## **Inappropriate Conduct**

Examples of inappropriate conduct by persons involved in Victoria Soccer Club youth programming that should never take place are:

- 1. engaging in or allowing any form of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse or harassment towards anyone and especially towards minor athletes.
- 2. ignoring or dismissing a minor athlete's concerns or complaints.
- 3. fostering an environment of fear, intimidation, or bullying towards minor athletes.
- 4. using language or behavior that is derogatory, discriminatory, or offensive towards minor athletes.
- 5. providing or encouraging the use of drugs or alcohol to minor athletes.
- 6. violating the privacy or confidentiality of minor athletes by sharing personal information or photographs without their consent.

- 7. using or exploiting a minor athlete's involvement in soccer for personal gain or advantage.
- 8. failing to follow Canada Soccer rules and regulations and Viktoria policies, rules and guidelines related to protection and welfare of minor athletes.

These guidelines are not exhaustive but are intended to provide general guidance to coaches, parents, and other adults involved in Viktoria youth soccer programs.