



RRSA CODE OF CONDUCT

Our Code of Conduct reflects the Recreation Recovery Soccer Association's (RRSA) Primary Purpose, which is to offer players in recovery an opportunity to combine tradition one's spiritual principle of unity with the passion for team soccer. We strive to create an atmosphere of co-ed recovery soccer, inclusive of race, ethnicity, gender, age and ability and based solely on developing participation in the beautiful game.

Code of Conduct

Participants of RRSA are expected to behave with civility and appropriate conduct. When players agree to join the RRSA, players indicate, by players registration, that players agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. *No refunds* will be given for loss of membership privileges due to the Code of Conduct breach. All members are encouraged to exercise sound judgment in caring for the safety of others and themselves. If players witness or experience threatening or inappropriate behavior by another individual, please report the situation immediately to an official RRSA volunteer or director. Standards of Conduct include, but are not limited to, the examples outlined below. In addition, the following types of conduct are specifically prohibited and may result in loss of membership:

- a) Aggressive Behavior: Players may not promote or engage in physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person. Players may not use "fighting words" to harass any employee or participant. If players engage in behaviour that is considered aggressive, then a player's actions may result in a suspension (of varying length) or permanent expulsion.
- b) All leagues are "NON-CONTACT"; thus, disregarding this rule is considered aggressive behavior. Non-contact includes slide tackles which are strictly prohibited.
- c) Control: RRSA designated volunteers, referees, and management (herein staff) are responsible for managing and maintaining the safety of our members and facilities. Players

agree to comply with the directions of RRSA staff acting in the performance of their duties.

Failure to comply with staff requests, directions, or instructions will result in loss of privileges.

- d) Disorderly Conduct: Players may not engage in tomfoolery, disorderly or lewd conduct, including behavior associated with alcohol or controlled substances.
- e) RRSA is a substance-free league. Therefore, no substance-use or alcoholic drinking is permitted within park boundaries; Team captains and players will be obligated to disclose or report intoxication of any kind and with any substance.
- f) Players must have proper footwear and shin pads are optional. Metal cleats are not permitted.

In registering as a member of RRSA and within the context of the activities of RRSA, an individual agrees to take part in a spirit of fair play, honesty and with the rules and regulations of RRSA.

As such, the member is expected to:

1. Have read the rules and agree to compete/participate within "**The Laws of The Game**" adopted by the RRSA posted in the documents section of the RRSA website: <https://recoveryfootball.ca/documents>
2. 15-days of abstinence-based recovery or fourteen 12-step meetings are required to play in games. However, players on an ORT program with a tampering schedule, under the supervision of a professional, will be allowed to register and play in the league.
3. No smoking or vaping in public parks.
4. Play within the spirit of the leagues, which is to have fun and be social in a sports setting
5. Compete/participate in a spirit of fair play and honesty.
6. Players and coaches must control their temper—zero tolerance for verbal abuse or disorderly conduct. Verbal and/or physical abuse of officials and other players and deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviors in any situation, especially concerning referees.
7. Players and coaches must refrain from using profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the context of the activities. Respect an individual's dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable—zero tolerance for violence.
8. Act in a manner that will bring credit to RRSA and players, both within and outside the competition arena and competition area.

9. Players must take responsibility for their health, and players cannot play who have any cold or flu-like symptoms.
10. Agree to cooperate with the event coordinator, teammates, and opponents and address fellow athletes, coaches, referees, officials, volunteers, event organizers, spectators, and others associated with RRSA courteously and respectfully.
11. Participate for players' enjoyment and benefit.
12. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants. This includes but is not limited to their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
13. Put the good of the game and players' fellow participants' safety and enjoyment above the desire to win at all costs.
14. Acknowledge the opposing team at the end of the match at the team's discretion (cheer, bump elbows, handshake, etc.).
15. Anyone that fails to adhere to the code of conduct is subject to penalties that include but are not limited to suspension of any length, complete expulsion for an indefinite amount of time, and exclusion from other RRSA leagues and events.

Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaches and captains are responsible for ensuring:

1. Players registered must be actively participating in a recovery program that is abstinence based and substance free.
2. Teams are obligated to disclose or report intoxicated or players using or on suspension from a lapse in recovery.
3. All players must be registered and complete the waiver. Signing the waiver is agreeing to the RRSA Code of Conduct.
4. Teams must be identified while on the field, and it is recommended to have two colours of shirts.
5. Players must be numbered.
6. Players must remain on their feet and land on their feet. **NO SLIDING TACKLES!**
7. Goalkeepers must come out headfirst.
8. Players who have played six games with one team before the roster cut off qualify for the playoffs.

9. Additional players are not permitted after the roster cut-off. Teams that cannot field a team will forfeit and receive zero points for the game. The teams then have the option to play the game for fun.
10. Cut off for the spring/summer 2023 season is June 30th. To abide by rule eight (8) new or transferred players must be on a team by May 21 or before to be eligible for playoffs.
11. Poaching, defined as trying to acquire or take a player registered by another team, is not allowed under any circumstances during the season. However;
12. Player transfers are allowed at the written request of a player to the board of directors and the consent of both captains. Written requests are to be submitted to Info@recoveryfootball.ca.
13. Non-recovery players are eligible if;
 - A) Related to a primary player on the team who is in recovery. "Related" as defined as an immediate or secondary family member. Such as a cousin or uncle/aunt.
 - B) Grandfathered in and played prior to RRSA formation
 - C) In recovery from a listed DSM-6 mental health disorder including but not limited too: Eating Disorders, Personality Disorders, Depression, PTSD.

SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

14. When teams are short female players, team captains can agree to play with fewer female players. It is recommended that each team has the same number of female players on the field. However, a female player used as a goal keeper is NOT considered a female allocated player on the team.
15. When a team is in need of a substitute player because they are short-numbered, team captains cannot use substitute players from another team or outside the league. The team captains must agree on whether to play short (6v7), both play even teams (6v6) or forfeit the game.

Coaches and captains must read and agree to adhere to the "Laws of the Game" posted on RRSA website: <https://recrecoverysoccer.ca/documents>