



## UISA DISTRICT COACH GUIDELINES 2024

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Thank you for your interest in a coaching position at UISA. Your commitment and efforts are greatly appreciated by everyone in the district. Thank you for all you do for the youth in our communities!

All information regarding your playing season can be found on our website [www.uisa.ca](http://www.uisa.ca)

### **The Responsible Coach Code of Conduct** from the Office of the Soccer Development Dept.

Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.

Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.

Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down within the Constitution and the Rules of BC Soccer.

Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.

Coaches must NOT exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.

Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.

Coaches must ensure at the activities they direct, or advocate, are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience, and ability of players.

Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the player (and, where appropriate, their parents) exactly what is expected of them and what they are entitled to expect from their coach.

Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g., other coaches, officials sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interest of the player.

Coaches must always promote the appropriate Code of Conduct and positive aspects of the sport (e.g., fair play) to players, parents, and spectators alike. Never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.

Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and experience and be a role model for players, parents, and spectators.

## Coach Advisory

- You are responsible for and expected to read and understand the rules as they pertain to league play, playdowns, and cup play
- Head coaches are required to complete the appropriate Canadian Soccer Association/BC Soccer coaching course respective to the age group of the team they are currently coaching. You can see the requirements [here](#) and [here](#).
- All coaches and team staff are required to have cleared the Vulnerable Sector Criminal Check in compliance with BC Soccer Rule 17.
- Team staff may consist of at least one member of the same gender as the team players. This team official must be present on the bench and in the changing rooms.
- All interaction between a team official and an individual player must take place within earshot and in view of another individual such as team staff, players, parents, match officials and/or association officials.
- It is very important to adhere to the Rule of Two [found here](#), which states there will always be two screened and NCCP-trained or certified coaches with an athlete in situations where the athlete is potentially vulnerable. One-on-one interactions between coach and athlete must be avoided at all times except in a medical emergency
- Coaches or persons in authority are not to be in a vehicle with a player without another adult present unless the person in authority is the player's parent or guardian
- Eliminate one-to-one electronic messaging. Ensure all communications are sent to the group and/or include parents/guardians. This includes virtual settings
- Make sure you are familiar with proper concussion protocols as found on BCSA website
- It is your responsibility to learn how to use SpAppz, login [here](#). Tutorials have been provided and if you need assistance, you may email UISA for help [upperislandsocceroffice@gmail.com](mailto:upperislandsocceroffice@gmail.com). All roster sheets, Match Reports and player Call-ups will be completed through SpAppz
- Ensure your players have uploaded current pictures on SpAppz for ID Cards, including all coaches and team staff. Check your roster prior to game day and use the Call-Up feature in SpAppz to pick up a player if you are unable to field a full team.
- See UISA Rules found [here](#) for details on possible sanctions and fines for not playing scheduled games.
- Harassment or abusive behaviour towards referees will not be tolerated, see Referee Support Policy

## Game Day

- It is good practice to check SpAppz the night before the game, your opponent's club website and check the ferry website if travelling to Powell River.
- Teams need to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to kick-off
- All teams need to produce a roster list of eligible players available for use in the game taken from SpAppz. Two printed copies are required for all league, playdown and cup games, one to be given to the referee before the game begins, and one to the other team. The roster must bear the team's name, date of the game, the name of the opposing team, the name of each

player and the unique jersey number of each player. No players currently under suspension should be on this roster list.

- Coaches and team staff are not permitted to be within two meters of the touchline and in the technical area, between five and twenty meters from the center line
- Coaches and team staff may substitute when given approval by the referee and only then. Players must leave and enter the field at the halfway line. A substitution may only enter the field once the player leaving the game has left the field
- Match Reports, found on SpAppz, may be filled in by a member of the team staff after the completion of the game. Match Reports may include any comments about the game, the other team, the level of play, the officiating
- League games will play regulation time in accordance with their age group, playdowns and cup games will play until there is a winner declared
- A no-show will result in sanction against the team and club
- If a game is forfeited due to no-show by visiting team, the home team retains home game advantage for next game and the opposing team will receive a 3-0 W

### **Weather**

- Please familiarize yourself with the Lightning Safety/Severe Weather Policy found [here](#)
- You are responsible to check field conditions prior to your game and advise the opposing team of field closures that would result in a game cancellation. It is the home team's responsibility to notify the referee coordinator and club of the game cancellation prior to the scheduled kick-off time. UISA must be notified by email to [upperislandsocceroffice@gmail.com](mailto:upperislandsocceroffice@gmail.com)
- If the game is being played in extreme heat, you may speak to the referee and opposing coaches to take a water break in each half to allow players to drink water and cool off.
- It is always a good idea to check the air quality index in the summer to ensure playing environment is safe for young athletes
- UISA recognizes inclement weather is the only valid reason for a game to not be played as scheduled.
- Coaches are responsible for scheduling make-up games for weather related cancelled games.

### **Referee Support Policy**

Any person considered by the UISA Discipline Board to be in offence of abusive conduct towards a game official during any UISA game will be reprimanded in writing. A second offence will result in being prohibited from attending matches. UISA Discipline Committee will decide on the length of the ban.

### **Policy Procedures**

When a game official feels they are being abused by either coach or supporter, they can suspend the game. If the abuse is physical, the game official will inform the coaches that the game has been abandoned. The official will verbally advise both coaches that the game has been stopped due to the abuse and inform both coaches as to the source of the abuse.

If the source is one of the coaches, the official will advise the coach that the next occurrence of a similar nature will result in an abandonment of the game and a report will be sent to UISA and BCSA Discipline Committees.

If the source is a supporter, the appropriate coach (or member of the coaching staff) must advise the supporter that the next occurrence of a similar nature will result in an abandonment of the game. Further, a report to UISA Discipline will be sent in for review.

If the person is not associated with either team, both coaches (or members of the coaching staff) are asked to speak to the person and ask the individual to leave.

Once the source has been warned the game will restart with a dropped ball between the two teams at the location where the play was stopped.

If the abuse continues, the official will be allowed to stop the game and advise the coaches that the game has been abandoned and a report will be sent to UISA and BCSA Discipline Committees. The game report must indicate the game was abandoned due to abuse and submitted within 24 hours. The Incident Report must be submitted within 48 hours for review.

If the game continues without any further incident, the game official is advised to inform their referee coordinator and UISA that the game was temporarily suspended due to abuse towards a game official.

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