



RESPECT. PRIDE. INSPIRE

BARRIE SC TOWARDS A SINGLE GOAL

Section: Administration	Subject: Zero Tolerance Policy PP-0220-00	Barrie Soccer Club www.barriesoccer.com info@barriesoccer.com 7 Currie Drive, Midhurst, ON L4M 6E9		
Application: Reference Data – Section 02 - Governance		Day 06	Mth 02	Year 18

Zero Tolerance Policy

PURPOSE:

The Ontario Soccer Association (“OSA”) is committed to promoting positive behavior on and off the soccer field through the support of coaches, parents, players, volunteers and officials. Respect is the communal responsibility of each participant in soccer to create an environment that is both safe and enjoyable for all who take part.

The Barrie Soccer Club is a strong supporter of making sport safe for our youth. Over the last couple of years, verbal abuse directed toward referees, players and team officials has been a particular problem. Accordingly, the Barrie Soccer Club has established the Zero Tolerance Policy for non-OSA registrants – anyone not individually registered with the OSA as either a Player, Team Official or Administrator (“Registrant”) – to enforce a set of expectations around inappropriate behavior for parents, legal guardians and spectators (collectively “Spectators”), including but not limited to offensive, insulting or abusive language or behavior, sexist or racist remarks, violence and vandalism, in order to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all. For the purposes of this policy, a spectator is defined as an immediate family member associated with a game participant, including aunts, uncles, grandparents or children.

SPECTATOR / PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behavior in the game. In particular, Spectators’ expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child’s attitude toward:

- Other players;
- Referees;
- Coaching Staff
- Managers; and
- Spectators.

The Barrie Soccer Club wants to ensure soccer can be enjoyed in a safe, positive and encouraging environment toward all of the players. Remember the game of soccer provides children the opportunity to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills.

Spectators are asked to play their part by observing the Barrie Soccer Club’s Spectator / Parent Code of Conduct at all times:

1. Applaud the opposition as well as their own team.
2. Avoid coaching or calling out to players during the game.
3. Not to shout or scream and the use of profanity is prohibited.



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4. Respect the referee, their assistants' and their decisions.
5. Give attention to each of the children involved in soccer not just the most talented.
6. Give encouragement to everyone to participate in soccer.
7. Wait 24 hours after any incident of concern before addressing the situation with team coaches or managers and shall adhere to the B.S.C. policy regarding Members Concerns as posted on the B.S.C. website.
8. Stand on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches. They must not step on the field during the game and should maintain a distance of at least 2 meters away from the field to avoid injury to themselves or players.
9. Ensure that young spectators in their care do not interrupt the game and remain a proper distance from the field.
10. Must inform guests or other family members regarding this Code of Conduct.
11. Refrain from the consumption of alcohol in the playing and spectator area (except in officially roped/marked off areas at special occasions).
12. Please refrain from smoking at all parks during soccer games or practices as the City of Barrie by-laws ban smoking at public parks.
13. Keep pets leashed at all times (note that pets are banned in some fields) and owners must pick up after their pets. If a referee determines that a pet is a nuisance or interfering with the game, the pet must be removed from the field at once.

The purpose Spectator / Parent Code of Conduct operating procedure is to promote a positive, safe and supportive environment for all participants at the Club's soccer activities. If a Spectator chooses not to follow the Spectator / Parent Code of Conduct, any, or all, of the following actions may be taken by the Barrie Soccer Club and the Spectator may be:

1. Issued with a verbal warning from the Barrie Soccer Club or league official;
2. Obligated to leave the match venue by the Barrie Soccer Club or game official;
3. Required to meet with the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board;
4. Requested by the Barrie Soccer Club not to attend future games or practices; and
5. Suspended or have Barrie Soccer Club membership revoked.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY:

1st OFFENCE (Written warning): Any Spectator judged by the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board to be guilty of abusive conduct towards anyone in attendance at a Barrie Soccer Club event will be reprimanded in writing.



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2nd OFFENCE (Discipline by hearing): Any Spectator judged by the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board to be guilty of a second conviction of abusive conduct towards anyone in attendance at a Barrie Soccer Club event will be required to attend a hearing with the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board to address their behavior. A second offence may result in a Spectator being suspended from attending future games and practices for a specified period of time as determined by the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board.

3rd OFFENCE (Discipline by hearing): Any Spectator, judged by the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board to be guilty of a third conviction of abusive conduct towards anyone in attendance at a Barrie Soccer Club event will be required to attend a hearing with the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board to address their behavior. In the unfortunate circumstance and as a last resort, for the protection of all participants associated with the Barrie Soccer Club's soccer activities, a third conviction may result in all playing members of the immediate family in question being de-registered from the Barrie Soccer Club for a period of time of the Barrie Soccer Club's choosing that may be, at the Barrie Soccer Club's discretion, unlimited.

In extreme cases and/or depending on the nature of the behavior, as determined by the Barrie Soccer Club's discipline board, a suspension from attending future games or practices and/or the de-registration process may be invoked after a first or second offence.

This policy, as per the OSA policy, only covers non-playing Spectators that are associated with a game participant. For incidents not related to the event or involving non-associated spectators the Barrie Soccer Club cannot enforce the Zero Tolerance Policy and/or Discipline Policies, however civil action may be sought by the parties involved.

If the source of the abuse is from a Registrant such as a team official, discipline procedures for the individual(s) involved will follow the policies for discipline management for OSA registrants as set out in the OSA Policies (Section 9.0 - Discipline).

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY PROCEDURES:

Game official handling and reporting of abusive behavior:

When a person(s) in attendance, including but not limited to the game official, feels they are being abused, as per the scope of this policy, by a Spectator, the game official will be allowed to suspend the game. In all cases, the game official must inform the coaches from both teams that the game has been suspended and file a Special Incident Report with the Barrie Soccer Club, who will process this document in accordance with the rules defined by Ontario Soccer (OS)..



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If a Spectator's behavior results in the game official suspending play, the appropriate coach will provide the game official with the name of the individual(s) that is identified by the game official and the coach must advise the individual(s) that the next occurrence of a similar nature will result in an abandonment of the game. If the individual(s) is not associated with either team, the individual(s) may be warned that local authorities may be called to deal with the incident.

Where the situation cannot be rectified the game will be abandoned. However, where the incident has been resolved and the game continues without any further incident, the game official will inform his/her referee coordinator that the game was temporarily suspended, including providing a detailed explanation of the reason for the suspension of play and toward whom the abuse was directed.

If the source of the abuse is from a Registrant, the game official should conduct himself/herself according to the policies for discipline management for OS registrants as set out in the OS Policies (Section 9.0 - Discipline). **In all cases the game official must file a Special Incident Report to the Club's discipline board for review.**

Reporting of abusive behavior by non-game officials:

In the event that an incident of abuse is not recognized by a game official, or occurs in a non-game situation, for example during a practice session, it is the obligation and duty of the coach and/or other team officials to report such incident to the Club's discipline board. All details such as the day, time and location that the incident occurred, the parties involved, description of the abusive behavior and to whom the behavior was directed must be provided in the report.

A Spectator who feels that they have been the subject of, or witness to, abusive behavior, including but not limited to a team official such as a coach, may submit a written complaint to the Club's discipline board. All details such as the day, time and location that the incident occurred, the parties involved, description of the abusive behavior and to whom the behavior was directed must be provided in the report.

NOTES:

For direction regarding policies for discipline management for OSA registrants, please refer to OSA Policies (Section 9.0 - Discipline).