

## Club Development League (CDL) Rules - Long Format

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#### **SECTION 1 - Introduction**

#### 1.0 - Name

The name of the League is the Club Development League hereafter referred to as "CDL" or "League."

#### 1.1 - League's Association

The League is sanctioned by US Club Soccer.

## 1.2 - League Management, Operation and Authority

The League is managed and operated by CDL Board of Directors, CDL Committee, with a designated League Administrator.

CDL Board of Directors and CDL Committee reserves the right to make certain decisions regarding the League, as it deems necessary, for the good of the game, to improve the game and/or to protect the participants. Such decisions shall include but are not limited to postponement or cancellation of games; rescheduling of games; changing of fields; changing of sites; fair play and unsporting behavior.

All teams submitting an entry to compete in the League thereby agree to abide by and accept the jurisdiction of the bylaws, policies, rules and regulations of the Club Development League, US Club Soccer, US Soccer and FIFA. No official, coach, club, referee, player, team, or their representatives may invoke the aid of the Courts without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate affiliated soccer organizations noted above.

Participating clubs will be responsible for teams entering the CDL and ultimately will be responsible for team (player, coach, and parent/supporter) actions.

If individual teams enter the league, their club affiliate will be responsible for team (player, coach, and parent/supporter) actions.

### 1.3 - Rule Changes

Rules may be updated/revised at any time. Please review the rules prior to the opening weekend of competition for your team and review them regularly. A plea of ignorance to all rules and regulations governing the CDL is not sufficient grounds for not following them, or to serve as the basis for a protest.

## SECTION 2 – Entry and Eligibility Criteria

## 2.0 - Eligibility

Entry is accepted by clubs and individual teams that meet the CDL entry standards. Teams and players must be registered and in good standing with US Club Soccer.

## 2.1 - Club/Team Application Procedure

- **2.1.1** All initial club and team applications must be submitted via the CDL website. Teams are required to enter the age group that corresponds with the age group designation assigned by GotSoccer player and team registration software.
- 2.1.2 A two-thirds majority of the CDL Allied Members is needed to approve a new club, team or training center. If an existing CDL allied or affiliate club member would like to add a team, club, or training center that have been classified as a satellite team, club, or training center, found in Appendix 4, the CDL member must:
- 1. Submit a written request to the CDL league director detailing the proposed new club, team, or training center addition, with supporting information.
- 2. Present the proposal in-person to the CDL committee.
- CDL Allied members will review the application and vote to accept or deny the application of the satellite teams/clubs'/training center entry into the CDL.
  - A two-thirds majority of the CDL Allied Members is needed to approve club, team, or training center membership.

- 4. All satellite team/club/training center requests must be submitted to the league director at least 8 weeks prior of the start of the annual tryout period.
- 5. All home base, satellite club and training center sites must be on record with the league director.

#### 2.1.3 - Membership Outcomes:

- Club/team meets all standards and is accepted with full status (does not guarantee voting privileges)
- Club/team is accepted with provisional status with documentation of a plan to work towards satisfying missing Club Standards (this will include a timeline to complete)
- Club/team is denied membership

## 2.2 - Determination of Team's "Playing Age Group"

The goal of the CDL is to create an environment that is player development centered. Consequently, any request to play up or down in the league will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the league administrator and/or CDL committee.

### 2.3 - Age Groups Offered

The CDL offers the following age groups.

• Fall Season: 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U, & 19U

Spring Season: 13U, 14U & 15U

Should there not be enough teams to form a single age group division, age divisions will be combined.

#### 2.4 - Roster Sizes

Maximum Roster Sizes - 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U, 19U (11v11) maximum of 22, 18 "game active"

## 2.5 - Team Formation & Levels of Play

Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 teams are formed by a self-selection process.

- Level 1: Highest level of play available in the state.
- Level 2: More competitive than Level 3, but not strong enough to be Level 1. Level 2 teams will play against a mixture of Level 1, 2 and 3 teams.
- Level 3: Teams will play against predominantly other Level 3 teams and teams from younger age groups.

### 2.6 - Multiple Rostering

Players may only play for one club in the CDL.

## 2.7 - CDL Entry Fee

The team entry fee is per team, per season. Team entry fee is not due at the time of entry. The CDL will invoice clubs for their total team entries during the playing season.

## 2.8 - Additional Fees

- Assignor Fees
- Referee Fees
- Field Rental Fees

## 2.9 - Withdrawal of Team Entry

Clubs should only enter a team into the League knowing it will be able to field that team and field it in the age group selected at the time of team entry.

2.9.1 – Penalty for late withdraw from the League – If scheduling has begun and a club subsequently requests to withdraw a team from the CDL, the club will be charged for the League entry fee and also be subject to a fine of up to \$250.00.

### **SECTION 3 – Club and Team Entry Standards**

3.0 – Please Refer to Appendix 1 for CDL club entry standards and Appendix 2 for CDL team entry standards.

## **SECTION 4 Scheduling**

#### 4.0 - Number of Games

Teams can request the number of games for each of their teams. Requests cannot be guaranteed.

#### 4.1 - Play Dates

The league designates gender specific play dates on alternating weekends. League games will be scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays with games starting at 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm or 5:00pm.

### 4.2 - Divisional Placement/Group Formation

Teams will be placed/assembled into divisions to create optimal competitive match ups.

#### 4.3 - Central Sites

The vast majority of games will be played at central sites.

## 4.4 - Games Per Day.

The league supports a one game per day model, however, 2 games per day will be scheduled to provide competition (if and when needed) and on East/West playdates.

## 4.5 - Scheduling Blocked Teams

- **4.5.1** The League will (attempt) to coordinate schedules for a head coach of two teams **only** if they are playing in the same double birth year, gender specific age group e.g. U13/U14, U15/U16 or U17-U19.
- **4.5.2** Teams sharing players The League will coordinate schedules for two teams sharing players to the best of our ability. Requests cannot be guaranteed.

### 4.6 - Rescheduling and Game Cancelation Policy

Once the final schedule is published, all matches are to be played as scheduled. Teams not playing a scheduled match will be subject to a \$400.00 fine and possible suspension from the CDL. Failure to adhere to this policy will render the offending team responsible for all referee and match fees.

- **4.6.1** In the event of inclement weather, field closures, or an "Act of God" the CDL League Administrator will work with clubs and verify the dates, locations, and matches that will be cancelled.
- **4.6.2** Mutually agreed upon reschedule requests made after the final schedule has been published must be made at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled playdate.
- 4.6.3 Reschedule requests that are not mutually approved will not be entertained.

Please understand all schedule changes impact assignor/referee schedules, any request may increase the difficulty to get your match assigned with a full referee crew.

# SECTION 5 – Game Day Specifications & Requirements

## 5.0 - Chart of Specifications and Requirements

	13U - 14U	15U - 16U	17U - 19U
Field: Length Range	100 - 120 (yards)	100 - 120 (yards)	100 - 120 (yards)
Field: Width Range	55 - 80 (yards)	55 - 80 (yards)	55 - 80 (yards)
Number of Players	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11
Maximum Roster Size	22 max 18 "game active"	22 max 18 "game active"	22 max 18 "game active"
Playing Time (Minutes)	2 x 35	2 x 40 *	2 x 45 *
Half Time (Minutes)	10	10	10
Ball Size	5	5	5
Goal Size	8 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24

If teams are playing a double header, game length will be adjusted to 2 x 35-minute halves for both games.

## **SECTION 6 - Fields**

# 6.0 - Field Inventory

Each club must have at least three league-approved 11 v 11 game fields or play the majority of (if not all) games away from home.

## 6.1 - Team Benches and Spectator Sideline

Players and team officials will be positioned on one sideline that is opposite the spectator sideline. It is not permissible for spectators to be positioned behind the team benches.

### **SECTION 7 - Referees**

### 7.0 - System for Assigning

Each club will be responsible for coordinating with their appointed referee assignor to schedule referees for games hosted at their designated home complex.

Only certified referees will be assigned by registered League Assignors and will use the diagonal system of control (3-person crew).

**7.1 -** Referee Pay Scale and Method of Payment

Please refer to the CDL Assignor and Referee Manual.

### 7.2 - Referee No-shows

If the crew is missing a head referee, AR or full crew, volunteers may be used so the game is played.

7.3 - Referee Reporting Requirements - Referee AR No shows, Send-offs, Forfeit, Abandoned game

In the event of any of the above, the Referee must submit a report to the League Administrator within 48 hours of the game.

## **SECTION 8 Required Game Credentials**

- **8.0** All players and coaches must be listed on a US Club Soccer roster. However, referees are not required to check rosters prior to each game.
- **8.0.1** Rosters for all teams entered into the CDL must be submitted to the CDL league administrator 7 days prior to the Spring or Fall season.
- 8.0.2 Late team roster submissions will be subject to a \$100.00 per roster fine.

### **SECTION 9 Playing Rules**

- 9.0 FIFA Laws of the Game except as noted herein
- 9.1 Game length (Refer to standards chart in Section 5.0)

#### 9.2 - Overtime

Overtime is not played if the game is tied at the end of regulation time, and the result of the game is recorded as a tie.

#### 9.3 - Forfeits

#### 9.3.1 - Failure to show

A minimum number of 9 players constitutes a team. A team with the minimum number of players present must start the game at the scheduled time. If the minimum number of players are not available, a 15-minute grace period will be allowed beyond the scheduled kick-off time. If at the end of the 15-minute grace period the team does not have the minimum number of players, the Referee will suspend the game and report it as a forfeit to the League Administrator. For the purposes of score reporting, the match will be recorded as a 1-0 (forfeit). All forfeited matches for "failure to show" will result in a \$400.00 fine)

#### 9.3.2 Ineligible player, coach, or team official

If it is determined that an ineligible player or coach participates in a CDL league match, the match will be forfeited. Any team, coach and/or team official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player or having an ineligible coach on the sideline may be subject to additional disciplinary action that could include sanctions for the club.

#### 9.4 - Completed game

Any game that has started the second half of play is considered a completed game.

## 9.5 - Substitutions

Substitutions may occur for either team a maximum of four times per half.

- Injured players may re-enter at the discretion of the referee.
- In the case of a head injury, a team may sub a player out even if it exceeds four times per half.

## 9.6 - Team Uniforms and Player Equipment

Each player of a team is required to wear "like" uniforms within a team (jerseys and socks especially).

- 9.6.1 Uniforms Each uniform should have a visible number that is different from the number of every other player on the team. Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from any other players and game officials; numbers for GK jerseys are optional. The home team (listed first in schedule) shall wear their light-colored uniform kit and the away team shall wear their dark colored uniform kit. The Referee will be the final authority on uniform colors. Should a change of jerseys be directed, the team failing to adhere to the above policy should change. If an issue still presents itself the home team shall change.
- **9.6.2 -** Size-appropriate shin guards will be enforced by referees, and goalkeepers are encouraged to wear gloves to help ensure their safety. Casts are allowed if properly padded. Referees will be the final authority of properly sized guards and properly padded casts. If a Referee points out non-compliance, the player will be given the opportunity to comply before any final decision is made regarding his/her ineligibility to play in the game.

### 9.7 - Heading Restrictions and Limitations

As per US Soccer Concussion Management Policy 13U - 19U - Heading is allowed in games.

9.8 - Concussions, possible head injuries and returning to play

Refer to the US Club Soccer Concussion Management Policy for requirements on returning to play.

#### 9.9 - Cautions, Send-offs

Players who are sent off should remain on the team bench under the supervision of the coach. If the player is deemed to be a distraction, they will be requested to leave the field and the match. They may receive additional suspension or sanctioning if they do not comply or are found to have returned within sight and/or sound of the match.

Coaches/team officials who are sent off must immediately leave the field and the match. He/she may not remain at the match, must leave it in a timely manner, and must be out of sight and out of sound of the match. He/she may receive additional suspension or sanctioning if he/she does not comply or is found to have returned within sight and/or sound of the match. A referee's decision regarding a send-off is final and may not be protested.

- **9.9.1** A team may not substitute for a player who is sent off, and the team will play down a player for the remainder of that match.
- **9.9.2** As per FIFA Laws of the Game, a team official guilty of misconduct will be shown a yellow card (caution) or a red card (sending-off); if the offender cannot be identified, the senior coach who is in the technical area at the time will receive the card.
- **9.9.3** Teams and coaches will take one side of the field and parents/spectators will be on the opposite side of the field. Any other individuals who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team -- such as relatives and spectators -- will also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the CDL League rules, and to the authority of League officials and game referees. Any coach or team official will be responsible for the actions of any individual(s) at any match that in the opinion of League officials or game referees is a supporter of that team.
- **9.9.4** Coaches or team officials who are sent off for the action(s) of any such individual(s) at a match are subject to the same penalties as detailed in these rules.
- **9.9.5** A send-off in a match carries with it the ineligibility for the player or coach/team official to participate in the next immediately following League match with that team.
- **9.9.6** The one game suspension follows the team within League play only, therefore if the player or coach/team official plays or coaches with a different team in the League, the suspension is not in effect for that other team
- **9.9.7** If the send-off occurs in the last game of the league season, the suspension will follow the player or coach/team official to the immediately following season's first League match.
- **9.8.8** If a CDL coach is sent off (red carded) twice in a CDL calendar year, August through June, in a CDL or US Club Soccer State Cup game, the coaches registering club will receive a \$250.00 fine. If <u>any</u> CDL club receives 5 cumulative coach red cards in a CDL calendar year, in a CDL or US Club Soccer State Cup game, the offending club will be fined \$1000.00.
- **9.9.9** The Referee must submit a report, including the name of the player or coach/team official that was sent off, to the League Administrator within 48 hours of the game.

## 9.10 - Referee Authority

From the time the Referee enters the playing field or its vicinity and until such time as the Referee leave the playing field or the next game begins, the Referee will have the authority to caution or send off any player, coach/team official or spectator. This authority extends to before, during and after game play, and the entire vicinity of the game field, including the Entire Park, facility or complex, and parking lots. The Referee is further given the authority to order off the field or its entire vicinity and parking areas any player, coach/team official or spectator who, in the Referee's judgment, is acting in a manner that is detrimental to the game.

### **SECTION 10 - Ethical Standards**

### 10.0 - Sportsmanship Expectations

Players, coaches, referees, and parents/supporters are expected to follow the CDL Ethical Standards. See Appendix 3.

## 10.1 - Disciplinary Action

Any player or coach/team official found to violate any CDL, US Club Soccer, or US Soccer Bylaws, Rules or Policies, or the FIFA Laws of the Game, may be subject to a hearing in front of a disciplinary committee.

If necessary, the League director will convene a disciplinary committee in the following manner:

- The CDL Board of Directors will appoint a three-member committee; designees may not have any affiliation with those brought before the committee.
- The CDL Administrator will serve as the (non-voting) mediator.

## 10.2 - Disciplinary Committee Procedures

- The committee may call any witness to document the case
- The alleged violated may call any witness document the case
- · After hearing all evidence presented, the disciplinary committee will decide on the discipline to be handed out.
- Unless the violated rules have a specific punishment, the disciplinary committee will determine the punishment, which
  may be any of the following:
  - Verbal/Written Warning
  - Suspension
  - Fine of up to \$1000.00
  - Removal from the League

## **SECTION 11 - Protests and Appeals**

### 11.0 - Investigation

It is the responsibility of the CDL League Administrator to investigate a properly lodged protest within the timetable as laid out herein. Failure of the parties involved to cooperate with such investigation will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

#### 11.1 - Decision

All questions relating to the qualifications of competitors, to interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest concerning an CDL League game will be referred to the CDL Committee. Decisions will be made by the CDL Committee and will be binding on all parties.

- 11.1.1 A plea of ignorance to all rules and regulations governing this League is not sufficient grounds for a protest.
- **11.1.2** A referee's judgment will not be a basis for protests and a referee's decision will be final. This includes, but is not limited to, cautions or send-offs for players, coaches/team officials or parents/spectators.
- 11.1.3 To be valid and eligible for consideration
  - A protest relating to grounds, goal posts or bars, or other appurtenances of the game will be entertained
    only if a written objection has been lodged with the Referee and with the opposing coach prior to the start
    of the game by a coach/team official listed on the team's US Club Soccer approved roster from the
    involved game.
  - In any other instances, a protest must be verbally lodged by a coach/team official listed on the team's US
    Club Soccer-approved roster from the involved game with the Referee and with the opposing coach at the
    game site before entering the field of play, or before leaving the game site at the conclusion of the match.

## 11.2 - Filing a protest

- A protest may be filed only by a coach/team official listed on the team's US Club Soccer approved roster.
- The protest must be filed with the CDL Board of Directors within 48 hours after the completion of the game being protested and include:
  - A fee in the amount of \$250.00
  - A written protest which must clearly articulate the disputed matter and include the grounds on which the protest is lodged.
  - A written copy of any information to be presented by witnesses.
- After having received a properly lodged protest, the CDL League Administrator will notify the team/party against which
  such protest is made, who will have the right to defend its case. A copy of the written protest will be provided to the
  other involved team/party.
- A lawyer will not represent a team/party at a hearing unless he or she is a bona fide member of one of the teams/parties concerned.

### **SECTION 12 - Recruiting & Tryouts**

### 12.0 - CDL Recruiting Policy

Recruiting: Defined as any action initiated by a club member (coach, assistant coach, team manager, coordinator, trainer, parent, or any person representing a team or club) who seeks to enlist the services of a player.

Recruiting Violation: Defined as any action initiated by a club member (coach, assistant coach, team manager, coordinator, trainer, parent, or any person representing a team or club) who directly contacts a player who is registered to another CDL club at any time throughout the seasonal year (August 1 – July 31). There must be documentation of the direct contact in order to allege a recruiting violation has occurred.

- **12.0.1** Permitted Contact: Contact with a player for limited purpose of participating as a guest player with prior documented approval from the player's current club director.
- **12.0.2 -** Social-Media and Texting: Clicking on a social media post is permissible (i.e., retweeting or likes) and thus is not considered a recruiting violation. If, however, a club member contacts a player directly via one of those social media platforms or by SMS text message then this is considered a violation.
- **12.0.3** Camps and Clinics: A player is eligible to attend a camp or clinic from another soccer organization should they choose to do so by their own accord. However, a soccer organization cannot directly contact a player from another organization and invite them to participate in a soccer program as this would violate the recruiting rule.
- **12.0.4** Contact information garnished from Camps, Clinics or College Recruiting events offered by another organization can only be used in the CDL seasonal year (August 1 July 31) it was obtained.

### 12.1 - Club Promotion

There is a difference between club marketing/promoting and recruiting. Clubs may generally promote their programs and try-outs publicly in the following places.

- Club Websites
- Public Media
- Social Media
- Schools Libraries
- Sports Stores
- Public Bulletin Boards
- Club Newsletters (Electronic / Mailed)

**12.1.1** - Public Events - Prior to distributing any promotional material at another club's event, you must have written permission from that club/organization.

## **12.2 -** Tryouts

All tryouts for team formation must be unrestricted.

### 12.2.1 - Unrestricted Tryouts

- Registered or unregistered players may participate in unrestricted tryouts.
- Any currently registered player who accepts a spot on a team of a different club for the next seasonal year
  may not train or participate with their new club until the next seasonal year begins (August 1), or the player
  receives a written release by the current registered club's Coaching Director or designated team official.
- Tryouts can only be held at the CDL club approved main business of operations training or game
  locations. A list of training and game locations must be submitted to the CDL director. Any new training
  and game locations must be approved by the CDL committee.

## 12.3 - Invitation to join a club

Invites to join a club may only be sent once during a 12-hour window on a date published on the CDL League Webpage. Invites may be sent using email and one of the following methods.

- Phone Call
- Official Letter
- Web Publication

#### 12.3.1 - Player Response

A player and his/her family have 12 hours to respond to invite/offer. CDL will provide helpful information to families to prepare for this exciting opportunity.

#### 12.3.2 - Becoming a member

A player is considered registered to a club the moment the player, parent, or guardian personally or electronically signs club's form.

## 12.4 - Guest Players

Before approaching a player(s) who is registered with another club, and/or the player's parents, regarding an opportunity to guest play or dual participate, the Director of Coaching or designated club official from that club must ask for permission to contact the player and/or parents. The "loaning" Club Director has the right to refuse permission.

## 12.5 - Recruiting Violations

Allegations of recruiting violations (1 violation = 1 player) must be based on fact. A written report detailing the alleged violation, including the rules or policies violated and all documents and witnesses supporting the allegation must be submitted to the League director for review and determination. If the allegation proves to be true, the following sanctions will be applied.

- Violation 1: Automatic \$500 fine plus any further action by the disciplinary committee
- Violation 2: Automatic \$1000 fine plus any further action by the disciplinary committee
- Violation 3: The club will be suspended from the League for a minimum of one year and is subject to additional sanctions as determined by the disciplinary commit

## APPENDIX 1

### **CDL Club Standards**

- 1. Commitment to ethical standards on game days towards all persons involved (coaches, players, parents, and referees).
- 2. Follow and comply with CDL rules and structure, including but not limited to central game sites and gender specific game days (rotated throughout the season). This will possibly minimize or eliminate the ability to play home games. Central sites are used to facilitate:
  - Coaching coverage
  - Referee pools
  - Scheduling
- 3. Each club must provide a league representative who can attend day-time meetings. League representatives must participate in a minimum of 75% of the meetings during the year.
- 4. Each club must have a technical leader (league representative) with at least a U.S. Soccer B-License or USC Premier Diploma, or UEFA equivalent License.
- 5. Each club must have an additional staff member with a U.S. Soccer C-License or higher, or equivalent license, actively coaching within the club.
- 6. Each club must have a Grassroots Instructor who is available to teach courses.
- 7. Coaches on the sideline must have a minimum of an online U.S Soccer 11 v 11 Grassroots License.
  - By the start of the Spring 2022 CDL season, all coaches must have a minimum of a US Soccer D-License or USC National Diploma.
  - New coaches will have one year to attain a US Soccer D-License or USC National Diploma.
- 8. Each club must maintain at least six teams in the league in the U13-U19 age groups.
  - Combination teams consisting of players from two or more clubs, will only count towards the registering club's total number of teams.
  - At least two of the six teams must be of the opposite gender.
- 9. Each club must have at least three league-approved 11 v 11 game fields or play the majority of (if not all) games away from home.
- 10. Each club must have a designated referee assignor to organize referees for their home facility.
  - Each club must offer an "in-person Grass Roots" referee course at least once every other year.
- 11. Each club must have a Financial Assistance Program (FAP) in place that is easily accessible as part of the club registration process. Individual club financial assistance programs must be linked on the CDL website.
- 12. Technical leaders MUST serve on at least one CDL sub-committee.
- 13. Each club must remain in good standing by paying invoices in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from the league.

Timeline:

Fall 2021 Standards 1 – 3 are mandatory Standards 4 – 13 can miss two (but working towards)

# **APPENDIX 2**

## **CDL Team Standards**

- 1. Commitment to ethical standards on game days towards all persons involved (coaches, players, parents and referees)
- 2. Follows and complies with CDL rules and structure, including but not limited to central game sites and gender specific game days (rotated throughout the season). This will possibly minimize or eliminate the ability to play home games. Central sites are used to facilitate:
  - Coaching coverage
  - Referee pools
  - Scheduling
- 3 Coaches on the sideline must have a minimum of a U.S. Soccer D-License or USC National Diploma.
- 4. Team(s) must have at least one league-approved 11 v 11 game field or play the majority of (if not all) games away from home.
- 5. Team(s) must be registered with US Club Soccer.
- 6. CDL Affiliate Clubs cannot have more than three individual teams entered into the CDL.
- 7. Teams must remain in good standing by paying all CDL invoices in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from the league.

Timeline:

Fall 2021 All standards, 1 – 7 are mandatory

## **APPENDIX 3**

#### **CDL Ethical Standards**

#### **Game Day Commitment to Ethical Standards**

#### **Coach Commitment**

- 1. No tolerance for any acts of racism and/or discrimination.
- 2. Never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
- 3. Remember that they are:
  - a. involved in coaching for the players.
  - b. have the players' best interest in mind.
  - c. seek to provide an environment where players not only develop as players of the game, but as people.
- 4. Not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players and spectators regardless of the situation.
- 5. Any problems that cannot be resolved between coaches or clubs should be referred to the appropriate CDL committee.
- 6. Should demonstrate a working knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
- 7. Responsible to ensure that their players:
  - a. understand the intent as well as the application of the Laws.
  - b. actions on the field must not permit them to perform with intent of causing injury to opposing players.
- 8. Constantly strive to teach good sporting behavior.
  - a. Not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
- 9. Refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players or spectators.
  - a. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the appropriate organization assigning the official.
- 10. Professional respect, before, during and after the game, should be mutual. There should be no demeaning dialogue or gestures between coach, official or player.
- 11. It is unacceptable for a coach to have any verbal altercation with an opposing coach or bench before, during or after the game.
- 12. Not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of the game.
- 13. A coach's behavior must be such as to bring credit to themself, their organization, and the sport of soccer.

## **Player Commitment**

- 1. No tolerance for any acts of racism and/or discrimination.
- 2. Remember that soccer is an opportunity to learn and have fun.
- 3. Treat my coaches, other players and coaches, game officials, other administrators, and fans with respect always; regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- 4. Players will:
  - a. Concentrate on playing soccer.
  - b. play by the rules.
  - c. control temper, resisting the temptation of retaliation.
  - d. Not use abusive or insulting language.
  - e. Treat everyone with dignity.
- 5. Conduct in playing of the game and towards all officials shall be in accordance with appropriate behavior and in accordance with FIFA's "Laws of the Game," and in adherence to CDL rules.
- 6. A player's behavior must be such as to bring credit to themself, their organization, and the sport of soccer.

## **Spectator Commitment**

- 1. No tolerance for any acts of racism and/or discrimination.
- 2. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, game officials, and administrators.
- 3. Parents will:
  - a. Not get into arguments with the opposing team's parents, players, or coaches.
  - b. Not come onto the field for any reason during the game.
  - c. Not criticize game officials.
  - d. Understand that the game is for the players, and to be enjoyed by the adults.
  - e. Place the emotional and physical wellbeing of all players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- 4. Refrain from any activity or conduct that may be detrimental or reflect adversely upon CDL, its members or its clubs.
- 5. A spectator's behavior must be such as to bring credit to themself, their organization, and the sport of soccer.

# Appendix 4

**Satellite Team or Club Definition**: A satellite team, club, or training center is a soccer team, training center or organization that is not based at the CDL member club's main business of operations (training or game locations).

Any satellite teams/clubs/training centers that have been formed and participated in the CDL prior to August 1, 2023, are grandfathered in and the rule does not apply.