

Policy Number: PSF005

Policy Date: May 1, 2025

Revision: 2

Policy Name: Player Behavior, Conduct and Expectations

1. General Commitment

Upon accepting a position with Pike Soccer Fury FC ("the Club"), you, as the player, along with your parent or legal guardian, agree to adhere to the policies established by the Club and your respective team. This commitment is binding for the full seasonal year, typically from August through the following July.

Effective and consistent communication between the Club, its teams, coaches, players, and parents is paramount to our success. This agreement serves to secure your understanding and acceptance of our mutual expectations.

Accepting a position with the Club is a significant commitment. Your decision to join a team directly impacts other players who may subsequently be informed of an unsuccessful tryout. We ask that you consider this with sensitivity and deliberate carefully before accepting a position. In turn, once your commitment is made, the Club fully commits to providing you with the best possible developmental environment.

Final authority on all team-related matters rests with the team's Coach, under the guidance of the Director of Coaching. Should a conflict arise, decisions will be made in the best interest of the team and its players after a thorough review of all relevant information. Our staff is dedicated to making objective decisions regarding playing time, positions, discipline, and team placement based on the Club's established expectations and objectives.

2. Financial Obligation

By accepting a position with Pike Soccer Fury FC, your parent or legal guardian assumes responsibility for the timely payment of all club and team fees for the entire seasonal year. All fees are **non-refundable**. No refunds or fee prorations will be issued if a Player leaves the Club for any reason, including voluntary withdrawal, injury, or dismissal for disciplinary reasons.

3. Player Code of Conduct

To maintain a supportive, safe, and productive environment, all players are required to adhere to the following code of conduct at all times.

A. General Expectations:

- Represent the Club in a respectable and professional manner at all times.
- Maintain honesty, reliability, and integrity.
- Uphold satisfactory academic performance and exemplary behavior in school.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle and a positive, team-oriented attitude.

- Strictly refrain from the possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs, tobacco products (including vaping), alcohol, or any other prohibited substances.
- Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship and fair play towards teammates, opponents, referees, and coaches.
- Maintain a positive and responsible presence on all social media platforms.
- Refrain from the use of profane, abusive, or insulting language.
- Actively dedicate yourself to personal skill development outside of scheduled team activities.
- Accept and respect the final decisions of the coaching staff.
- **Anti-Bullying:** Bullying, harassment, or intimidation in any form will not be tolerated. A first offense will result in a formal warning and potential suspension. A subsequent offense will result in immediate and permanent dismissal from the Club with no refund of fees.

B. Conduct at Training Sessions:

- Arrive at the training location prepared and ready to participate no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- Provide advance notification to the Head Coach for any anticipated tardiness or absence.
- Wear Club-designated training attire. While this is the required standard, it is understood that unavoidable situations may occasionally occur. In such cases, a suitable, neutral-colored alternative is permissible. All other equipment remains mandatory.
- Grant full attention and respect to coaches and trainers when they are providing instruction.
- Provide positive and constructive support to teammates.
- Commit to maximum effort and focus throughout every training session.
- Ensure the team bench area is clean before departing.

C. Conduct at Games:

- Arrive at the game location at the time designated by the Head Coach, fully prepared to compete.
- Provide advance notification to the Head Coach for any anticipated tardiness or absence
 - **Game Attendance:** Player commitment is essential to the success and integrity of the team. Any player who misses a regular season scheduled club game without providing prior notification and a valid reason may be benched or pulled from the starting lineup for up to two games. If this becomes a recurring issue, the player may be subject to a two-game suspension. **Furthermore, if a player chooses to miss a Pike Fury FC game to play with another club, this will be considered a serious breach of commitment and will result in immediate expulsion from the team without a refund of fees. The player will also not be invited to play with Pike Fury FC in the future.**
- Wear only Club-designated pre-game and game uniforms and use proper equipment.
- Never verbally challenge, harass, or gesture disrespectfully towards referees or game officials.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect at all times.
- Participate in post-game handshakes with the opposing team and officials.
- Address concerns about game situations (e.g., playing time) privately with the Head Coach at an appropriate time.
- Ensure the team bench area is clean before departing.

4. Disciplinary Action and Procedure

This policy details the behavioral standards required for membership in Pike Soccer Fury FC. Failure to adhere to these standards undermines team morale, player development, and the Club's reputation. Should a player fail to meet the expectations outlined in this agreement, the Club will implement the following disciplinary procedure.

This process is cumulative throughout a player's entire journey with the Club. Disciplinary actions and warnings do not reset at the beginning of a new seasonal year and will carry over for the duration of the player's membership.

The Club reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accelerate this process for offenses it deems sufficiently severe.

- **Initial Warning:** The Head Coach will address the issue directly and privately with the player, outlining the unacceptable behavior and the required correction. The Director of Coaching will be notified.
- **Parental Notification:** If the behavior persists, the Head Coach will communicate with the player's parents/guardians to discuss the issue and seek their involvement in correcting the behavior.
- **Suspension:** If the behavior continues, the Director of Coaching may issue a temporary suspension of the player from training, games, or all team activities.
- **Dismissal (Expulsion):** For severe infractions or continued non-compliance, the Director of Coaching may recommend permanent dismissal to the Club's Board. The parents/guardians will be formally notified in writing of the Board's final decision.

Serious infractions that may warrant immediate suspension or dismissal include, but are not limited to: violence, abuse, theft, dishonesty, any violation of the substance abuse policy, or any conduct that substantially damages the reputation of the Club.

5. Legal Notice and Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the **State of Georgia**. Any legal action or proceeding arising under this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in the state or federal courts located in Pike County, Georgia.

6. Acknowledgement and Agreement

By completing the online registration for Pike Soccer Fury FC, the **player and their parent or legal guardian** acknowledge they have received, read, fully understand, and voluntarily agree to be bound by all terms and conditions set forth in this Player Behavior, Conduct, and Expectations agreement. The electronic submission of the registration serves as a binding signature of this agreement.