

# **CLUB INDEPENDENT (CI) COACH EXPECTATIONS POLICY (CI-POL-002) (AMMENDED 28 APRIL 2020)**

This policy is the Club Independent (CI) Coach Expectations Policy (CI-POL-002) for all CI coaches (all head coaches and all assistant coaches). All CI coaches are required to complete, sign and agree to this policy form and have it on file with CI by 15 July (of the current year) for the upcoming year (12 months) before they are allowed to take the field with their CI team(s).

Poor sporting behavior will not be tolerated at any Club Independent (CI), referred to in this policy document as CI, event either on or off the field. CI will diligently enforce CI-POL-002.

## **COACH EXPECTATIONS POLICY STATEMENT**

It shall be the policy of CI for the CI Director of Coaching (DOC) with the oversight of the CI Vice President II (VP II) – Team Operations to review and retain CI coaches (both head coaches and assistant coaches). All coaches (all head coaches and all assistant coaches) shall comply, complete and upload (to their CI Stack Sports account) the appropriate required training certificate(s) annually, as determined by the State of Alabama, U.S. Soccer, Alabama Soccer Association (ASA) and CI to include, but not limited to, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Heads Up Concussion Training, SafeSport Sexual Abuse Prevention Training, Coach Safely Safety Training (Threat Advice), etc. by 15 July of the current year. All coaches (all head coaches and assistant coaches) shall also register annually in CI registration database by 15 July of the current year and are required to pass the annual background check therein.

## **POLICY**

All CI coaches (all head coaches and assistant coaches) shall adhere to the following policies:

- Shall not share, send, or disseminate, in any manner, any CI player(s)/parent(s)/legal guardian(s) Personal Identifiable Information (PII) including contact information to any other person or organization without the expressed consent of that CI player's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) with the exception of CI Board Members that handle and disseminate registration and player interest data to the appropriate CI teams.
- Shall not add any player to a guest roster as a guest player within CI or outside of CI without a written and/or email approval from the player's parent(s)/legal guardian(s), player's head coach and/or from the CI Director of Coaching (DOC).
- Shall not share, send, disseminate or use any player(s) Medical Release Form(s) and/or player card(s), that contain Personal Identifiable Information (PII), in any manner that is deemed inappropriate by CI, including registering player(s) on a guest roster as a guest player with the appropriate approvals.
- Shall hold and/or pursue the appropriate United States Soccer Federation (USSF) Coach License for the team age and division that they will be coaching, as required.
- Shall recruit player(s) within the Alabama Soccer Association (ASA) guidelines.
- Shall develop the CI team game and practice schedules, with the assistance or delegation to the CI team manager(s).
- Shall assume the responsibility for the behavior and for the duties of their CI team manager(s) and other CI team volunteer(s).
- Shall procure a practice field for their CI team practices.
  - The CI VP II may assist in practice field procurement.
- Shall consider a coaching philosophy that is aligned with the CI philosophy of soccer development.
- Shall select the tournaments in which the CI team will play, if applicable.
  - The CI DOC may provide recommendations for tournaments upon request.
- Shall perform at least one (1) CI team meeting with CI team parent(s)/legal guardian(s) before each season.
- Shall perform at least one (1) CI team meeting with CI team parent(s)/legal guardian(s) at the conclusion of each season.
- Shall provide written or verbal evaluations to CI players 8U-14U annually.

- Shall provide written or verbal evaluations to CI players 15U-18U (when requested by the CI player(s) or CI parent(s)/legal guardian(s)).
- Shall be available to CI parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to discuss their child's play.
- Shall keep good communication with the CI team manager for all team correspondence.
- Shall keep good communication with the CI DOC for all correspondence to the CI Board.
- Shall follow all approved and/or amended CI policies and procedures.

### **COACH COMMITMENT**

As a CI coach, I recognize my responsibility to provide leadership and instruction, which brings the individual efforts of player(s) and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) together to create an exceptional club and team experience. To achieve the goal of building a competitive and cohesive team, I shall commit to the following:

- Shall support and represent CI, as well as my CI team(s), in a professional and dignified manner at all times.
- Shall lead by example in demonstrating sportsmanship and fair play, while encouraging players to do the same.
- Shall lead by example in respecting the official(s)/referee(s) decisions for they are an integral part of the game.
- Shall balance the desire to win with the goal of insuring appropriate developmental opportunities for all players as well as the health of the team.
- Shall dress professionally and appropriately for soccer and insist that players follow my lead.
- Shall ensure that the playing environment is safe for all kids – physically and emotionally.
- Shall be prepared for incidents; keep a medical kit, current emergency contact information, current medical release forms and current parent(s)/legal guardian(s) insurance card readily available for the player(s) on my team.
- Shall be cognizant of the weather and avoid taking any chances with weather related issues and lightning.
- Shall always avoid the use of profanity in speech and behavior (gestures).
- Shall maintain a sporting environment in the company of players, free from alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.
- Shall motivate and coach using positive reinforcement.
- Shall be punctual and attend all practices and games; in the event of a conflict, arrange for a suitable substitute (licensed and capable) and brief this substitute in advance as far as possible.
- Shall diligently prepare for each practice session, making them engaging and instructive, to maximize my players' learning experience.
- Shall prepare for each game by creating a suitable strategy, especially in consideration of my teams' seasonal plan.
- Shall respect my parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and player(s), as individuals and as a team, and earn their respect in turn.
- Shall respect all CI rules, policies, procedures and regulations.
- Shall be ultimately responsible for the team regarding the enforcement of all CI and team policies, procedures, rules and regulations, including the mission statement of CI.
- Shall be responsible for the actions of the assistant coach(es), parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and team player(s), prior to, during and after each game, practice and/or CI event. Repeated conduct issues or violations of the CI General Code of Conduct Policy should be reported to the CI DOC and to the CI Risk Management Coordinator.
- Shall recognize the commitment and investment demonstrated by my team manager(s) and parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
- Shall recognize that I coach youth soccer; I will place the emotional and physical well-being of player(s) ahead of personal ambition.
- Shall assume responsibility for all under my charge at games, practices and CI event(s) exercising good judgment with safety of bathroom breaks, nearby teams, nearby strangers, pets etc.
- Shall attend all scheduled CI coach meetings, including special meetings called by CI. It is the obligation of the head coach to advise the team and/or CI if an event cannot be attended. If the head coach cannot attend, an assistant coach shall attend in the head coach's absence. If the head coach does not have an

assistant coach or the assistant coach cannot attend, the team manager shall attend in the coach's and assistant coaches' absences.

- Shall follow the CI General Code of Conduct (CI-POL-001).
- Shall implement a team Player Code of Conduct Policy. Note that the CI recommended Player Code of Conduct Policy Expectations/Recommendations (CI-POL-004) are available for use.
- Shall follow the CI Grievances Procedures Policy (CI-POL-005).
- Shall follow the Club Guest Playing Policy (CI-POL-006).
- Shall follow the DIII (and friendly) Home Game Scheduling Process (CI-PROC-001).
- Shall follow the Concussion Awareness and Concussion Action Plan Procedure (CI-PROC-003).

#### **COACH COMPLIANCE**

The coach shall comply with all requirements of any applicable Federal, State or local law, rule, or regulation, comply with all U.S. Soccer, Alabama Soccer Association (ASA) policies and procedures, and comply with all CI policies and procedures.

Anyone witnessing a violation of this CI Coach Expectations Policy (CI-POL-002) should report such violation(s) to the CI Director of Coaching (DOC) and/or to the CI Risk Management Coordinator. The CI DOC will refer any violation(s) to the CI Risk Management Coordinator.

#### **CI CONTACTS:**

CI DOC Email Address: [doc.club.independent@gmail.com](mailto:doc.club.independent@gmail.com)

CI Risk Management Coordinator Email Address: [riskmanager.club.independent@gmail.com](mailto:riskmanager.club.independent@gmail.com)

CI Email Address: [club.independent.soccer@gmail.com](mailto:club.independent.soccer@gmail.com)

CI Phone Number: 256-279-7436