



# Bowen Island Football Club

## Parent Expectations



Dear BIFC Parent(s),

Thank you for your willingness to support soccer on Bowen Island by registering your child with BIFC. We are fully aware of the demands on everyone's time to be a part of our club and we have tried to respect that while establishing parent expectations.

### **VOLUNTEERING**

- Help by volunteering to coach, manage, help with field set-up, join the Board or other fun tasks.
- Help the manager with car-pooling and arranging snacks (they are volunteering as well)
- League teams require parents to help set-up and take down benches and tents and roll nets to their age-appropriate field locations so coaches can warm up players and prepare them for their match. At the end of the game coaches need help to return them to locked location on the grass field fence.

### **TEAMSNAAP**

- Parents must download the Teamsnap app [here](#). BIFC uses Teamsnap to communicate with team members about upcoming games and practices and posts the team schedule including field locations. **The Club requests parents to update their child's availability for both training sessions and games.** This is very important so coaches can be aware of possible absences and make the necessary adjustments. This is especially important given some teams may need to rotate players or call up players from other teams.
- Check Teamsnap or email and reply to requests from your coach or manager. This saves your volunteer Coaches and Managers a lot of time.

### **GAMES AND TRAINING**

- Parents are responsible to get their children to games or practices on time as specified by the coach; if a child cannot attend a game or practice, you need to inform the coach ahead of time.
- Be on time to pick up your child following games and practices.
- Inform the coach if your child is to get a ride home with someone else or to walk home.
- Inform the coach of any medical conditions they should be aware of.
- Model good sportsmanship - show respect for all players, coaches, game officials and the laws of the game.
- Be encouraging and enthusiastic towards all players and acknowledge the good plays of ALL players, on both teams.
- Come out to games and practices - the coaches and players love the extra encouragement and support.
- Be willing to work with the coach if there are discipline problems on the team. Discuss any difficulties with the manager and/or coach.
- Games are on rain or shine, except in the event of field closures and teams will be notified accordingly.
- Encourage players to abide by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule a player.
- Only provide positive comments that motivate and encourage participants' continued effort.
- Respect the decisions and judgments of officials and encourage athletes to do the same.
- Respect and show appreciation to all competitors, and to the coaches, officials, and other volunteers who give their time to the sport.
- Refrain from entering the training or competition area and from interfering with any activities. Please stay away from the team bench areas and do not stand on the far sideline or near the goals.
- Refrain from any negative or critical comments towards a Match Official.

## UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT

- Ensure the player arrives at practices and games and is ready to go on time and with appropriate gear. Please ensure your child's clothing is labelled.
- For Youth league teams, U9 and older, you must provide soccer cleats, shin guards and a club-issued uniform (at cost). Players keep the entire uniform.
- Full kit (uniform) must be worn for games and training sessions. Socks are to be worn over shin guards.
- Proper footwear must be worn. Cleats for games and for practices.
- No jewelry can be worn (taping over earrings is not permitted by league rules).
- In cold weather dress your child in layers so it is easy to take clothes on or off.
- If a child must wear leggings in cold weather, please choose appropriate material; baggy pants and jeans do not allow the children to run freely and get heavy with rain. Cotton hoodies and sweats also get very heavy with rain.
- Drinking water should be brought to all games and practice. Put a name on the bottle.
- If you have an equipment concern, please contact the Club Coordinator ([info@bowenfc.com](mailto:info@bowenfc.com)).

## PROBLEM SOLVING PROCEDURE:

Please keep in mind that this is a volunteer organization, and everyone is working toward a positive soccer experience for all players and members. The association recommends that you take the following steps to resolve any conflict or difficult issue that may occur during the soccer season. Please act maturely and respectfully and try to see both sides. Try to address the issue at the team level with the coaches and manager.

Failing a resolution contact the Club Coordinator and Club GM/TD by sending an email to your team manager who will forward it on to the appropriate person. He/She will review the issue and the previous attempts to resolve it and will then provide advice on how to proceed. He/She may recommend a resolution or intervene, as appropriate.

Having followed this procedure without satisfaction, you may ask the BIFC board to address your concerns at its next scheduled meeting by providing a letter that outlines your concerns and the steps taken toward finding a resolution to the problem. They will advise you of their final decision.

