

# **Newbury Park Soccer Club Player/Parent Agreement**

This Player/Parent Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and accepted as of this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by and between \_\_\_\_\_ (“Player”) and \_\_\_\_\_ the parent or legal guardian (“Parent”) and the Newbury Park Soccer Club, a not-for-profit organization (“NPSC” or “Club”).

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Over the years, we have enjoyed many successes with our involvement in youth soccer. We have learned that one key ingredient of success is clear, consistent communication between the Club, its Teams, Coaches, Players and Parents. This agreement is our way of explaining, in detail, our expectations of you as a member of NPSC. It will help identify some potential problem areas and at the same time answer questions about the Club’s decision-making process. As you have committed to become a member of NPSC, please take the time to read the following pages carefully. Our “Total Development” philosophy has proven to be an important guideline that outline’s our club’s philosophy in making NPSC a home for your children to flourish, surpass their best, and fulfill their dreams in sport.

## **THE CLUB AND THE TEAM:**

Members of NPSC agree to put the Club ahead of the Team. When decisions are made regarding conflicts between the Club and a particular Team, the Club will come first. Club decisions will be made by a majority vote of the NPSC Board Members. The decisions of the NPSC Board Members will be final and without appeal.

## **THE TEAM AND THE INDIVIDUAL:**

Members of NPSC agree to put their Team ahead of the individual Player. If conflicts arise between the Team and a Player or Parent, the Team Coach under the direction of the NPSC Board will be responsible to make decisions for the good of the Team. These decisions will be made after gathering all relevant information and consulting with those involved. The Coach’s decision will be objective and will be based on his or her best evaluation of the facts. Once a decision has been made, it is final. Players and Parents shall abide by the decision.

## **PLAYER EVALUATION AND SELECTION:**

Player performance will be evaluated by observing the Player under the pressures during seasonal practices, scrimmages, and games. Only the Team Coach will confer in matters of Player evaluation and selection.

There are many terminologies used to categorize and describe soccer abilities. Present and potential Team members will be evaluated in four areas:

## **Four Areas of Evaluation:**

- 1) Mental Dimensions (character, discipline, leadership, and work ethic)**
- 2) Physical Dimensions (endurance, strength, and speed)**
- 3) Technical Ability (skills, ball control, improvisational skills, etc.)**
- 4) Tactical Awareness (game sense, reading of the game, and runs)**

If you have any questions about the meaning of these terms, please ask the Coaches. The Coaches will base their decisions solely on the Four Areas of Evaluation, and they are responsible for making decisions for the good of the Club and Team. Politics, friendships, personal relationships, and financial contributions to the Club or Team will not enter into these decisions.

Your understanding here is important, for just as Players and Parents have freedom to select a soccer club without unfair pressure and with a full understanding of what is expected, the Team Coach needs the same freedom to work objectively. We will not always agree on issues as sensitive as Player evaluation and selection. You will respect our decision in these matters.

## **TRYOUTS:**

Tryouts are organized and held at a team level. Please talk to your coach about when tryouts are held. The Team Coach will decide whom he/she wants to invite to tryout.

## **THE PLAYER:**

You are not under any pressure to join the Club. Instead, we hope that you and your Parents will consider all your options and choose what will be best for you, taking into consideration your goals and aspirations as a person and a soccer Player.

Once you commit to join NPSC, you agree to abide by the policies of the Club and your Team.

This commitment is for one soccer season only. The soccer season begins on September 1 and continues through the success of the Team through state, regional, and national competition. At the end of the soccer season, your commitment to the Club is over and you are free to leave the Club, if you feel it is in your best interest. At the beginning of the next soccer season, you are again free to try out under the same guidelines previously mentioned. Remember, in the event your Team qualifies for regional or national competition, you must fulfill your commitment to your Team through the end of that competition, regardless of your status with the Club for the following season.

NPSC expects its Players and Parents to be ethical, honest, and honor their commitments, both verbal and written. Therefore, you should make your decisions thoughtfully and carefully based on your well being and guidelines by Club policies. Once your commitment is made, the Club expects your full participation and support for the entire soccer season. Club and Team activities (meetings, training sessions, fundraisers, etc.) are the simple commitments that each player is expected to support throughout his or her term with the Club. Take into account that when you make your commitment, the Team

Coach may need to inform other potential Players they did not make the Team. Please be sensitive to others and consider your decision carefully.

As a member of NPSC, you are responsible for your own performance and conduct. Honesty, communication, and reliability will be expected at all times. The Club asks that you take pride in yourself and respect the sport of soccer. This requires that you maintain a healthy lifestyle and a healthy attitude. Any Player use of drugs, alcohol, or cigarettes is not acceptable to the Club, and may result in temporary suspension or even expulsion from the Club. In addition, we insist you maintain a positive attitude and a personal sense of sportsmanship and fair play. At all Club or Team functions, you will be expected to conduct yourself in a respectable manner and to represent the Club and your Team in a positive way.

If you have committed to the Club, the Club will honor its commitment to you. No Player will be cut from a Team during a soccer season unless it is for disciplinary reasons, failure to fulfill financial obligations, or constant disregard of Club policies. The Team Coach will make decisions regarding temporary suspension from the Club or Team, after carefully consulting with the NPSC Board Members.

### **BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE GAMES:**

During the soccer season, the Team and its Players participate in many activities such as: practices, league competition, tournaments, state and national cup, and other activities.

The Team Coach will make decisions on Player selections, game lineup, Player's position, amount of playing time, tournament participation, etc. Players must be positive in fulfilling the role they are asked to perform for the Team at any moment, even if that role has them not playing at all, not being in the starting lineup, not playing a desired amount of game time, or playing a different position.

From the designated arrival time at all practices and games, Players are expected to concentrate on soccer. Players must arrive on time with required equipment (shoes, proper NPSC uniform, soccer ball, shin guards, etc.) and be ready to play or practice.

Since practice and playing their best requires undivided attention, there will be no visiting between Players and Parents, family, friends, pets or others (who might cause Players to lose focus on soccer), from immediately before the practice or game until they have been dismissed by the Coach. This includes half-time and the conclusion of games, when Players are expected to get water, then immediately join the Team and Coach for game tactical discussions or Team adjustments. When Team responsibilities are over, Players are free to join family and friends.

Nutrition and proper rest are also part of the Player's personal responsibility as a member of the Club. We expect Players eat nutritious, healthy food. Should Players have questions about which foods are best for performing athletes, please ask the Team Coach.

## **THE PARENTS:**

Parental support and involvement in the Club are essential. If your son/daughter decides to commit to NPSC, your commitment as a supportive parent is also necessary. If Players are to make a quality commitment to the Club and their Team, Parents must see to it that their son/daughter attends all possible Club and Team functions (practices, meetings, games, tournaments, fundraisers, etc.). At times there will be conflicts that cannot be avoided and more important events do occur. However, the Club requires your communication, planning, and understanding, so as to minimize conflicts. It is the Club's responsibility to present a periodic schedule to allow time for your planning. When Parents or Players have an unavoidable conflict, the Club expects timely communication to see if the Club or Team can make any necessary adjustments. The Team Coach will make final decisions on scheduling and adjustments after careful considerations of your needs and those of the Club or Team.

NPSC insists on respectful communication with the Team Coach regarding any matter involving your child. These instances should not be blown out of proportion or discussed with other families, either in the Club or outside of the Club. To avoid any and all problems that may occur in team sports at a youth level, we feel it is very important to discuss any and all potential problems with the Team Coach and if requested by the parent, with NPSC Board Members

Any parent, who is consistently disrespecting the program and/or found dishonoring any Club policies will be asked to meet with the NPSC Board Members, the Team Coach and Team Manager. Please note that inappropriate behavior by a Parent can lead to the expulsion of their son/daughter.

NPSC prides itself for offering club soccer level of play at a reasonable cost to families. The main reason the Club can fiscally operate as it does, is because of our annual Thousand Oaks Classic tournament, after which the Club offers a profit-sharing percentage back to its Teams. It is mandatory for the Parents to volunteer a few hours of their time during the tournament weekend.

## **SIDELINE COACHING:**

There will be **no** coaching by Parents and/or player supporters. No matter how good your intentions are, we insist there be no shouting instructions to your son/daughter or yelling (complaining) to officials during games. Your vocal support and positive encouragement are welcome after a good play. Screaming "Go" or "Shoot" are interpreted as instructions, and as such, are not desirable. It is important Players not be distracted at practices or during games, and that Players are given only one set of instructions by one voice before, during, and after practices and games. For this reason, the Club insists that the Team Coach be the only voice at all games and practices. No one other than those listed on the official game roster may sit on or near the Team bench before and during games. Please respect the space and privacy necessary for the Coach and Team to carry out their game responsibilities.

NPSC's philosophy on "Total Development" and long-term growth in the sport is the primary goal and should be considered at all times. There will be instances where the Coach will make decisions and Players are instructed to do things Parents will not

understand. Club, Team, and Player development will sometimes be given a greater priority than winning.

As a competitive club, we place an emphasis on competition for state and national competition. Parents must understand this and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the healthy Team environment.

Parents, feel free to discuss and ask questions about your son/daughter at the appropriate time. Please take the initiative to teach your child to speak up and communicate for themselves whenever possible. Your Coach will always express their observations and views of an individual Player using the Four Areas of Evaluation outlined earlier in this Agreement.

### **THE COACH:**

The Coaches for the club are instructed to conduct themselves first as teachers and second as soccer Coaches. NPSC's coaching staff will conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times. In this regard, you can expect NPSC Coaches to conduct themselves as positive role models and display appropriate behavior at all times. Our Coaches recognize they are dealing in an important way with young people and cannot overlook the impact they have on Players' lives.

Coaches are responsible for conduct of the Team on and off the field, when the Team is together and as part of a Club event. We insist our Players are polite, well behaved, and respectful. Players and Parents can expect honesty, reliability, and timely communication from the Coach.

NPSC's Coaches may be responsible for helping numerous state, regional, and national caliber Players, many of whom receive college scholarships and play on top college and national Teams. The Club makes no guarantees that Players will be offered a college scholarship, or be considered for a state or national Team.

The Team Coaches are responsible to create an environment where you can play quality competitive soccer. The soccer NPSC plays will be taken very seriously. NPSC recognizes there are things more important in life than soccer. In terms of priority, family and school work come first. However, if the Coaches see you are not willing to put your soccer above other recreational activities during the season, it may affect your playing time and/or your status with the CLUB. As a member of NPSC, we expect you to commit to the sport of soccer and your Team as your first recreational activity and priority during the CLUB season.

Do not expect the Coaches to praise everything you do well. After a time, there are things the Coach will come to expect from every Player. There are times when the Coaches will say very little, and times they may yell to give instructions. There are times they will be critical of Players, and other times they will be generous with praise. Players and Parents are expected to take constructive criticism along with praise for a job well done and be able to deal with both.

It is important for Players and Parents to understand that soccer is a player's game. Once Players reach a certain level of skill, maturity and experience, they become more important to the Team's success than the Coach. NPSC will be evaluating its coaching staff throughout the year. The Club will assess any team coaching inconsistencies.

### **TEAM MANAGER:**

NPSC Team Managers are expected to uphold the policies of the Club and organize all activities for the Team. Team Managers are to act as the liaison for the Club and Team in any and all respective club events, and act as the Team contact for the league, club, and state association. The Team Managers of NPSC are also expected to be committed members of the Club and/or Team by actively taking part in the recruitment of Players, both for their own team as well as the Club. Each manager is also responsible for many of the administrative duties such as: registrations (Player, Administrators and Team), applications (tournaments and league), player profiles, meetings (club and league).

Any Team Manager found coercing Players and/or Parents of their own Club and/or Team to leave NPSC as an individual or Team, shall be removed as Team Manager immediately. The NPSC Board Members shall evaluate this decision. The decisions of the NPSC Board Members will be final and without appeal.

In order for an existing Team Manager to step down during the soccer season or at the end of the soccer season due to conflict of interest or other conflicts, the Team must identify an interim manager approved by the NPSC Board Members.

### **UNIFORMS:**

Players and Parents are responsible for the cost of the designated Club uniform. This will include at minimum 2 game jerseys, 1 game shorts, 1 game socks, 2 practice T-shirts and 1 warm-up jacket.

In order to promote club and Team unity, it is essential that all NPSC members be committed to wearing the designated Club uniform and apparel of the Club in its entirety at all practices, scrimmages and games.

### **FUNDRAISING:**

NPSC provides several opportunities as a Club and for member Teams to raise funds. We encourage the participation in fundraising, as these funds will reduce the cost of playing on a club team. All individual Team fundraising must be approved by the Board. From time to time, the Board will require participation of its members in Club fundraising functions. NPSC prides itself for offering club soccer level of play at a reasonable cost to families. The main reason the Club can fiscally operate as it does, is because of our annual Thousand Oaks Classic tournament, after which the Club offers a profit-sharing percentage back to its Teams. It is mandatory for the Parents to volunteer a few hours of their time during the tournament weekend.

## **TEAM FINANCES:**

Each NPSC team handles their own finances and team fees. The Team Manager is responsible for collecting the team fees from the parents. The Team Manager is then to pay occurring Club, league, and tournament fees. Each team's fees might be slightly different depending if the team uses a paid Trainer or not. Each Team Coach decides which tournaments and events to participate in with the team. Depending on the number of events, the team fees may change.

## **FAILURE TO PAY:**

**Player and Parents shall immediately contact the Team's Treasurer and their Team Manager to inform them of their inability to make any Team Fee payment at least ten (10) days prior to the payment's due date, which are set by the Team Coach and Manager. Failure to make timely payment of Team Fees by the payment due date, accelerate the due dates of all of the then unpaid dues and may, in each case at the sole discretion of the Team, result in any or all of the following: (1) suspension of Player's right to participate in Team training and/or game competitions; (2) termination of the Player's association with the Team and their inability to compete in League or State/National Cup games (3) bad standing with Cal South, preventing the Player from registering with any other Cal South team until all fees are brought current and/or the commencement of legal collection efforts against the Parents for the unpaid balance of the Team Fees.**

## **DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:**

Our attempt with this Player/Parent Agreement is to present in clear detail exactly what will be expected of you and what you can expect of the Club, the Team, and the Coaches. If you are uncertain of what is expected, it is your responsibility to ask your Coach, Team Manager or Board of Directors. Knowing and understanding these things, your participation in the Club will be positive for you as you develop your soccer abilities to higher levels. We have high expectations of the Club, the Team, the Coaches, and you.

These expectations are really the rules, regulations, and policies for the Club. So that you and every Player in our Club can get the maximum benefit, we need you and every Player to abide by the Club rules, regulations, and policies. If disciplinary actions are necessary, the following steps may be taken:

1. The Team Coach will discuss the problem directly and privately with the Player, with the assumption the problem will be corrected immediately.
2. If the problem persists, the Team Coach will communicate with the Player's Parents to discuss the problem and lack of response on the part of the Player.

Parents will have the opportunity to be involved with correction of the problem at this time.

3. If the problem persists, the Team Coach may temporarily suspend the Player. If the situation warrants, the Team Coach shall recommend to the **NPSC Board Members** that the Player be removed from the club. This can only be done if meets Cal South criteria.
4. The Parents of any Player recommended for removal from the Club may request to meet with the **NPSC Board Members**.

Our desire is to work in a positive, constructive way with our Players. Everyone has problems from time to time, and we will make every effort to work with you to help solve the problems you may have. After we have exhausted all efforts in trying to solve the problem, we will be left with little choice but to pursue disciplinary action as outlined above.

#### **DISCLAIMER AND AGREEMENT**

I/we have read this Player/Parent Agreement for the 2022-2023 season and agree to be bound by the NPSC Club polices and rules as outlined above. I/We acknowledge that the Club is a voluntary participation program and that athletic events involve risk of physical injury. I/We hereby release, discharge and hold harmless Newbury Park Soccer Club its agents and representatives from claims arising out of or relating to participation in the soccer program, including any physical injury caused by negligence of any official, referee or coach, while performing his or her duties during any practices or games. I/We agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decisions of NPSC and to comply with our volunteer service commitments.

**Please tear off and return this page ONLY with Player Registration Form. Registration will not be completed without this signed form attached.**

Player's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Player's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Mother's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Father's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

