



SSUFC Referee Conduct Guidelines

Aligned with Soccer Nova Scotia & Canada Soccer

At South Shore United FC, we are committed to creating a safe and respectful environment for everyone involved in the game, especially our referees. In order to maintain that commitment, we have created guidelines that apply to all players, coaches, team officials, and spectators. Referees deserve respect; they make the game possible. Let's support a culture where they feel safe, confident, and respected - every match, every time.

Thank you for upholding the SSUFC standard of sportsmanship.

EXPECTATIONS FOR PLAYERS

- Show respect to referees before, during, and after games
- Accept referee decisions without complaint
- Shake hands with officials after every game
- Let your coach handle any concerns

EXPECTATIONS FOR COACHES & TEAM OFFICIALS

- Model respectful behaviour toward officials at all times
- Do not yell at or question referees during play
- If clarification is needed, speak calmly at halftime or post-game
- Address disrespectful behaviour from your team immediately
- Report referee concerns through the club, not directly

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS & SPECTATORS

- Cheer positively — focus on encouragement
- Never shout at, approach, or criticize referees
- Remain calm and respectful at all times
- Speak to your coach privately if you have concerns

Our club, our district, our province, and our country has **ZERO TOLERANCE** for

- Verbal abuse to officials
- Intimidation of officials
- Public criticism of officials (including online)

Violations may lead to removal from the game, suspension, or other formal disciplinary actions