

Acadia Fire FC

Mission Statement

- I.** Acadia Fire F.C. (AFFC) seeks to create a safe environment for children to develop athletic abilities, improve social skills, increase cognitive flexibility, and enhance imaginative creativity through learning, practicing and playing soccer. AFFC is focused on the development of the whole child and views soccer as a vehicle for becoming a better person.
- II.** Soccer is a dynamic sport that requires quickness of thought and movement, good conditioning and physical strength. Athletic training will focus on improving the player's agility, endurance and power.
- III.** Improving sportsmanship is another important component of training. Players will be encouraged to be assertive, responsible, and confident. Positive behaviors are expected on and off the field.
- IV.** Soccer is a players' sport. Each player will be encouraged to improve their understanding of the game and will be supported in finding creative and imaginative solutions to game situations. Coaching during a game will be kept to a minimum to allow players the opportunity to learn from experience.
- V.** Coaching will focus on teaching players the soccer techniques of dribbling, passing, trapping-controlling and shooting. Players will be taught soccer skills progressively - one step at a time - so they learn each skill 'perfectly'. Sound soccer skills are the foundation for each player's success and enjoyment. Players will learn new skills with their coaches during weekly soccer lessons, with the expectation that the players will practice these skills on their own time. Tactical knowledge will follow the learning of techniques. Coaches will encourage a dynamic, offensive playing style that is exciting both to players and fans alike.
- VI.** Coaches will treat each player as an individual with unique skills, potentials and needs with the goal of helping each player achieve their 'personal best.' Unnecessary competitiveness will be discouraged. Coaches will not make fun of or alienate any player for any reason. Discipline issues will be addressed with a respectful attitude. Coaches will also refrain from using guilt, shame and/or fear to improve competitiveness. Appropriate stretching and strengthening will occur at every practice to reduce the likelihood of injuries. Injuries will be taken seriously and no player under any circumstances will be encouraged to play injured or sick.
- VII.** Parents are encouraged to be unconditionally supportive toward all players, coaches and other parents to help create an emotionally safe environment where

each player can develop skills to reach their potential.

VIII. Members of Acadia Fire FC are expected to make soccer a priority and commit to learning soccer skills, attending soccer lessons, practicing at home and attending league games in May and June. We understand players will be balancing soccer activities with commitments to other important activities. In fact, Club members are encouraged to live full lives and participate in other activities that support the player's development.

IX. Please let your coach know when you cannot attend a soccer activity. Responding quickly to emails and phone messages is important for the organization of the team's practices and games. Not responding to a coach's communication can result in an inability to schedule games and/or practices.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

Use or possession of any alcohol or tobacco product, or any illegal substance, at any Club sponsored function by a player will result in immediate removal from the Club for the duration of the season upon review of the Board and forfeiture of all fees.

Scholarship Program

Scholarships are available. Scholarships are awarded based on individual and family needs. No child shall be refused membership to AFFC for financial reasons.

