



PROMOTING A SAFE, HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

The Chinooks Soccer philosophy “Where Players Play” can only exist in an environment where children aren’t afraid to take risks, make mistakes, and learn and grow from those mistakes.

Our goal as a club is to create the safest environment possible. **Safe athletes are healthy athletes, and healthy athletes can freely perform to their potential.**

What Constitutes Healthy, Appropriate Behavior?

1. Positive/supportive communication between coaches and players. This includes providing positive and constructive feedback within the context of practices, academies and/or games.
 2. Clear, direct communication between the club, players and parents.
 3. Creating and maintaining an open environment in which parents, coaches, players and other Chinooks staff are free, and encouraged, to observe practices and/or games.
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4. Maintaining a professional relationship and healthy boundaries between players and coaches and/or parents and coaches.
5. Coaches are able to have fun with their players, while also maintaining healthy, professional boundaries.
6. Ensuring inclusiveness so all players feel welcome on a team and within the Club.
7. Leading by example at all levels of the Chinooks organization.
8. Promoting and ensuring the mental health of all athletes, alongside physical health and skill development.
9. Team expectations established between coaches and players and communicated clearly to put everyone on the same page with respect to the team environment. This includes expectations such as accountability.
10. Team rules. These are agreed upon principles governing the team's behaviour, both collectively and individually. Rules recognize the coach's role in modelling and upholding the expected behaviours.
 - a. Coaches will *consistently* promote and enforce the established rules.
 - b. All members of the team (coaches and participants alike) should be aware of the consequences of breaking the established rules, which encourages ownership and responsibility.
 - c. Team rules provide boundaries to maintain a healthy team environment and contribute to the team's expectations of each other.
 - d. Rules promote respect and trust, and thus encourage a psychologically safe environment.
11. Establishing and exemplifying core values within a team.