

**GILLETTE SOCCER CLUB RULES  
AND POLICIES  
As Amended 05/29/2013**

**1.0 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

All players within the GSC organization shall be members of WYS. Any player who is not current with GSC membership fees is expressly prohibited from participating in any team practices, trips, games, or other activities. All adult volunteers, coaches, and Board Members shall submit the USYSA "Volunteer Disclosure Statement" and the online form and submit to a background check.

**2.0 COMMITMENT FORM**

The GSC Commitment Form is required by the GSC organization. It should be filled out and submitted prior to skill evaluations and registration. Copies of the form are obtained from the GSC coaches or Board Members. The following page contains the commitment form. Violation of any part of the Commitment Form will result in review and possible disciplinary action by the GSC. A copy of the commitment form can be found at the end of this document.

**3.0 AGE GROUP**

Individuals shall be assigned to an age group as defined by the USYSA. Competitive Teams will be formed at the U8 age group up to the U19 age group if players and coaches are available. Developmental teams will be formed at the U8 age if roster numbers allow. Teams will be formed based on a single gender basis, unless it is found necessary to combine genders to form a team based on the demographics and/or numbers of players.

**4.0 SCHEDULING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF TRY-OUTS**

Full, open tryouts for all teams will be held twice a year, at dates set by the GSC Board of Directors. For the fall season, tryouts will be between May 31st and August 15th. For the Spring Season, tryouts will be between February 1st and March 30th. The dates and tryouts will comply with the WYS/USYSA registration rules. The dates will be publicized by all means available, within reason, to reach as many potential players as possible.

**4.01 TRY-OUTS PROCESS**

All players (parents) must fill out the WYS/USYSA medical release and online registration form prior to the participating in tryouts. This provides the coach with needed player and parent contact information. Try outs will be conducted by the DOC and all Head Coaches. Players may try out for teams in older age groups in addition to the teams in their own age group with the parents consent. If a player is selected through the try out process for more than one team, the player/parents can elect which team to participate on. The DOC will meet with the parents, the player and the Head Coach to ensure expectations of all parties are clearly understood. In the event that this process results in players being cut in either the older age group or younger age group a reassessment of the decision will take place between the coaches and DOC prior to parental involvement.

**4.02 TEAM SELECTION PROCESS**

Team selection will be based on player evaluations occurring during the try out process, the Head coaches past experience with the players, exhibited teamwork and attitude during previous seasons and the try out process with the child's age being considered secondarily. The composition of teams after tryouts have been held will be approved by the DOC. If a player is unable to attend the tryouts, a written notification by the parents prior to the tryouts needs to be given to the head coach, registrar, or the DOC if a head coach has not applied. In these cases an alternate date may be arranged. Secondary tryouts may be necessary for final selection of players, and are at the discretion of the head coach. Appeals of the final team grouping need to be brought to the attention of the DOC, resolve the appeal.

#### **4.03 TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

Upon completion of the selection process, the DOC will work with the Head Coaches to ensure players are placed in the proper groupings and address issues relating to the number of available players and the club's abilities to field adequate numbers of players on each team. If there are more than enough players and coaches to form more than one team in an age group, the teams will be called the Edge Gold, Silver and then Bronze Teams. Then the coaches will notify the players of their respective teams.

### **5.0 COACHES' QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATION**

The GSC has set a goal to provide the best soccer experience possible to its players. This goal can only be met by the dedication of experienced, educated, and certified coaches. As such, the GSC requires that the coaches improve their levels of certification whenever possible.

#### **5.01 COACHING LICENSES**

The normal progression of licensure is under USSF rules, from "F" through "A". GSC shall permit only those coaches with an "E" or higher license to fill the head coach position of a GSC team. The "E" license is required to be obtained within the first year of coaching a GSC team. Equivalent licenses through National Coaches Association of America will also be recognized. Waivers may be granted by the GSC organization to those with no license as long as they have demonstrated ability to coach and make every effort to obtain a license within the first year of selection, and continue to make every effort to obtain an "E" license and additional coaching education and no other person with a coach's license has applied for for same team. A normal progression of advanced licensing is expected for the improvement of the organization. Assistant coaches are also encouraged to obtain a coaches license.

#### **5.02 COACHING APPLICATION PROCESS**

GSC must select coaches for each team in the organization when more than one applies for the same position. To facilitate the selection process, each coach is required to submit intent to coach and an application to the DOC or the GSC Board. The applications are to be submitted before July prior to the upcoming fall season and before February for the upcoming spring season. This includes all present coaches. Include all pertinent information such as coaching experience, licenses, clinic/classes, work with youth and any other information necessary for a fair evaluation. The applications will be evaluated by the GSC Board Members of the prior season. Additional information may be considered by the board when approving coaches, such as the volunteer disclosure form information, compliments or complaints by parents, referees etc.

#### **5.03 COACH APPLICANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

For confidentiality, the registrar will verify each coach's background check is acceptable and will exclude any denied applications from the list of coaches. The registrar will notify any denied applicants of the decision before announcing the list of coach applicants to provide an opportunity for the applicant to

appeal to the elected officers. The applicant may also appeal to the GSC board at their discretion. The Registrar will issue an email notification to all GSC members listing all the coaches that have applied for each team. The list of coaches will also be listed on the GSC website.

#### **5.04 SELECTION OF COACHES**

At the beginning of each season, the DOC reviews the applications received and will present a list of recommended head coaches at the next BOD meeting for board approval

#### **5.05 COACHES' COMMITTEE**

The board shall establish a coaches' committee. The Coaches' Committee shall be represented by the Director of Coaching at the GSC monthly board meetings. The coaches shall meet a minimum of four times (once prior to fall season, once after fall season, once prior to spring season, and once after spring season). They will establish coaching philosophies for the GSC teams and discuss skill evaluations, tournaments, new ideas and any problems brought forth by players, parents or the GSC Board. The Director of Coaching or appointed representative, will bring forth their ideas and recommendations for Board consideration.

### **6.0 CONCERNS, PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

Should a player, a parent or other party have a concern with any topic regarding the coaches, players or parents the issue should first be addressed to the head coach of his/her team. If the matter is not resolved, and the concern still exists, then notice can be submitted to the DOC. Only after attempting resolution through the coach and DOC shall the board be notified, in writing, of the issue.

The written notice/request will be reviewed and information gathered. The parties will be contacted within 7 days of the written notice and reviewed by the GSC Board and Coaches Committee. Once all of the information pertaining to the concern has been gathered, a decision will be made within 20 days of the written notice of concern. The GSC Board will render their decision by written notice to all parties involved. The GSC Board decision will be final.

### **7.0 SANCTIONED GAMES**

All GSC teams participating in this organization shall play in WYS sanctioned games. The center referee of any game must be a currently certified referee, registered with the USSF. Participation of a GSC team in a non-USYSA or WYS sanctioned game may subject the coaches and team members to sanctions, which in extreme circumstances can include expulsion from the organization. Scrimmages between two registered teams do not fall under this rule; however, it is recommended that the scrimmages be refereed by a certified referee. All out of state tournament play must be accompanied by the Wyoming State travel papers.

### **8.0 WYOMING LEAGUE GAMES**

Games organized by the Game Scheduler are expected to be played when and where they are scheduled. Games are not to be rescheduled merely for the convenience of coaches or teams. Injuries and vacations are not acceptable excuses for rescheduling a game. All of the Wyoming League games are set up by the scheduler based upon information supplied by the Game Scheduler. Therefore the schedule should be fixed out of courtesy to the scheduler, the referees, and the opponent.

### **9.0 TEAMS**

The Gillette Edge provides teams (if players available) in **all** age group as follow:

GIRLS

Rec+ U6 – U8

BOYS

Rec+ U6 – U8

U-8	U-8
U-9	U-9
U-10	U-10
U-11	U-11
U-12	U-12
U-13	U-13
U-14	U-14
U-15	U-15
U-16	U-16
U-17	U-17
U-18	U-18
U-19	U-19

Player must be 7 on August 1<sup>st</sup> of the playing year in order to register for GSC. Coed teams may also be formed in all age levels if players are available.

#### **10.0 SEASONAL YEAR**

The GSC recognizes two independent seasons, Fall and Spring, within the USYS defined seasonal year of August 1st to July 31st. The Fall season shall be August 1st through October 31st and the Spring season shall be March 15th to the end of the WYS (State) Cup. Registered players are bound to their league team for the duration of the respective season.

WYS offers WyoLeague State games in the fall and spring seasons. The GSC teams must participate in WyoLeague. Be aware that if a team is expecting to participate in the Wyoming State Cup and be eligible for Regional's, that team must comply with the associated WYS State League game rules and procedures.

Winter indoor tournaments are different than either spring or fall seasons. The number of players allowed on the field and on the roster is less than those for outdoor events, so it is not feasible to keep the league teams together for winter indoor events. Therefore, players are considered released upon the completion of the Fall Season for GSC indoor teams only. Any coach may assemble an indoor tournament team(s) made up of any GSC players of the appropriate age and gender. Neither the Coaches committee nor GSC board has any jurisdiction to interfere in the winter indoor tournament team formation or governance during the winter season. All correspondence and resolutions shall be conducted between the team coach and parents.

#### **11.0 FEES**

The GSC Board shall establish annually the membership costs for the subsequent year. The GSC Board will determine the annual fees for Edge teams. The annual fee includes but is not limited to the cost of WYS membership cards, insurance fees, city fees, GSC membership fees, equipment, nets, and field striping. Players are required to pay these fees in full prior to start of the new season based on due dates set forth by the GSC board. Delay in payment will delay the issue of USYS membership cards and team rosters and may result in late charges. Special arrangements may be considered in extenuating circumstances. Any player who is not current in their

GSC/Edge fees is prohibited from participating in any practices, team trips, games/tournaments or other activities of the GSC.

These fees will be divided among all of the rostered players. A separate payment process will be implemented for players/teams to collect these fees.

League games are as scheduled by the state and the GSC will submit payment for any fees associated with these games. The teams will be automatically registered and fees paid by the GSC Registrar for the 3 major tournaments that they will attend throughout the season. These tournaments will be decided upon at the first scheduled board meeting prior to the season starting. Any desire by teams to attend additional tournaments is encouraged but fee collection and registration will be the responsibility of the coach for those events. If a team wishes to opt out of registering for one of the 3 major tournaments it must be submitted in writing to the board at the next scheduled meeting. The board will vote and allocate funds accordingly.

Registration fees may be refunded only for injuries on a pro-rated basis with written request and approval by the GSC Board.

## **12.0 CONTRIBUTION**

The GSC may accept any designated contribution, grant, bequest, or device consistent with GSC's general tax-exempt purpose. Sponsorship is limited to that of the GSC as a whole. Limited donations to a team can be accepted for items such as team bags and warm-ups with prior written approval from the Board. Coaches and teams are not permitted to solicit donations without prior approval from the Board so as to not duplicate fund-raising efforts of the Board on behalf of the whole club.

## **13.0 FUND-RAISING**

It is the policy of the GSC to allow individual teams to participate, as a team, in FUND-RAISING activities under the team name (i.e. U-10 Boys). Each activity must receive prior approval from the GSC. Five percent of profits from individual team fund-raising shall be paid to the GSC general fund. Any GSC, WYS sanctioned tournament shall pay 5% of its profits to the state organization.

## **14.0 FINANCIAL AID**

Financial Aid is awarded to players solely on the basis of financial need. Financial aid is not used as a recruiting inducement or as a reward for stellar play. All requests for financial aid will be handled discreetly. Financial aid is provided by waiving all or a portion of a player's annual dues. No monetary payment will be made to a player. Financial aid must be approved by the GSC. Aid will generally be considered upon providing the "Scholarship Application Form" to the Head Coach or directly to the Board. The Board will meet in Executive Session to consider all financial aid requests. Members of Executive Sessions include the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar.

## **15.0 UNIFORMS**

The GSC is dedicated to the uniformity of each of its teams. As such it is extremely important that the Gillette Ede is recognized by their uniforms.

### **15.01 Colors**

The Gillette Edge organization has adopted the purple and white as the primary team colors.

### **15.02 Approved Gillette Edge Uniform**

- ★ All uniforms must be approved by GSC. The approved Gillette Edge uniform consist of:
  1. Primary Short: Black, Purple or White or a combination thereof.
  2. Primary Jersey (one required): Purple/ White
  3. Alternate Jersey (one required): White or White with Black
  4. Socks: White, Purple or Black
  5. Numbers: Solid Color, no smaller than eight-inch numbers are to be printed on the back of the jersey.

#### **15.03 Obtaining Uniforms**

The Gillette Edge uniform is the responsibility of the player and parents. Uniforms will be distributed by the coach at the beginning of the season. The uniform is the player's to keep. All other accessories shall be obtained by the parents. It is recommended purchases be team coordinated to volume purchase and ensures that the correct approved equipment is purchased.

#### **15.04 Additional Personal Equipment**

Warm-ups and equipment bags are optional.

### **16.0 TEAM EQUIPMENT**

Each team is provided from the GSC organization with the following equipment:

- ★ Medical Kit, per season
- ★ Eight cones (one time issue)
- ★ Two new game balls, per season

### **17.0 GENERAL RULES**

This space is reserved for miscellaneous rules that shall be provided as the GSC continues to grow.

#### **17.01 First Aid Drugs**

Out of concern for liability, no volunteer, parent (other than that of the player), or coach shall dispense aspirin or other first aid drugs to players without parental consent.

### **18.0 OBJECTIVES AND GUIDELINES**

The following is a copy of the GSC statement of its objectives and guidelines. These statements set forth the organization's philosophy, which affects all that teams do, the perception of what the team are, and what the teams represent to persons outside of the organization. The content of this material should be made available to the players, parents, and volunteers of the organization.

#### **2.03.01 Objectives**

The GSC goal has always been, and continues to be, to promote soccer in the Gillette area and in

Wyoming. The GSC strives to offer the best coaching possible, to develop its players' skills to the utmost, and to field teams capable of competing at high levels. GSC teams will play to win while maintaining a high level of sportsmanship.

The GSC teams seek the best players available. Seasonal open roster and competitive skill evaluations are required.

Good Sportsmanship and team play are taught and required constantly. Poor sportsmanship and/or selfish play are counter-productive to a winning effort.

## **19.0 GUIDELINES FOR GSC**

### **Conduct:**

- ★ Be friendly to all players, on both teams
- ★ No foul or abusive language to other players, referees, coaches, or fans will be tolerated – a player will be subject to immediate dismissal upon GSC Board review.
- ★ Respect the rights and property of others
- ★ Do not criticize teammates or coaches –compliment and support each other
- ★ Take pride in your appearance as a Gillette Edge player
- ★ Substance abuse and/or possession thereof (drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco) is cause for immediate dismissal from the program for the remainder of the current season and possible permanent expulsion subject to GSC Board review.
- ★ No unsportsmanlike conduct will be tolerated, on or off the field
- ★ Play hard, but fair—Gillette Edge players do not engage in cheap shots.

### **Responsibilities:**

- ★ Bring proper equipment to all practices and games
- ★ Be on time
- ★ Show loyalty and commitment to your coach and your teammates by regularly attending games and practices
- ★ Uniform:
  1. Wear a regulation uniform
  2. Be clean and presentable for games
  3. ~~Boxer shorts and sports bras are not to be visible under the uniform, nor are they to be worn independent of the uniform~~
  4. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times
  5. Shin guards are required
  6. Socks are to be worn pulled up
  7. Uniforms are worn only for games or scrimmages

## **20.0 GUIDELINES FOR COACHES**

Coaches play a very important role in the lives of their players, with long lasting affects. Since young men and women can be easily and profoundly influenced in their formative years, a coach's primary goal must be to contribute to the positive physical, mental, and social development of players.

### **Conduct:**

- ★ Coach by constructive criticism; exhibit enthusiasm

- ★ Be a leader—set a good example
- ★ Show pride through action
- ★ Be proficient in the rules of the game
- ★ No foul or abusive language will be tolerated
- ★ No alcohol or tobacco use while engaged in coaching duties
- ★ Coaching from the sidelines, i.e. giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position, is permitted provided that:
  1. No mechanical, electrical, or other devices are used to amplify the voice
  2. The tone of voice is informative and not harangue
  3. The coaching takes place within the team's bench area
  4. No coach, substitute, or spectator is to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, linesman, players, substitutes, or spectators. Do not discuss any negative aspects of another coach, player, or referee etc. in front of any players.
  5. No coach, player, substitute, or spectator is to use profanity or incite, in any manner, disruptive behavior of any kind.
- ★ Players are always supervised.
- ★ For the protection of the coaches and the players, coaches should never be alone with any player.
- ★ The coach is responsible for the action of his/her sideline.
- ★ Equipment should not be borrowed or shared without permission.
- ★ Players must have access to water and restrooms.
- ★ Obtain and keep medical releases at all practices and games.
- ★ Conduct a seasonal parent meeting.
- ★ Non Parent Coaches will be reimbursed on a rate schedule determined by the GSC Board.

### **Coaches Responsibilities:**

To the Parents and Players:

- ★ Good communication is vital (parent meetings, team parent, schedules, roster)
- ★ Start and end practices on time.
- ★ Come prepared to games and practices.
- ★ Set a good example for players.
- ★ Encourage players to do their best; help players reduce their fear of failure; give positive feed-back to every player.
- ★ Treat each player as an individual.
- ★ Develop the player's ability to deal with high pressure situations; emphasize cooperation and shared responsibilities.
- ★ Develop the player's ability to deal with success.
- ★ If you error, error on the side of safety
- ★ Even when play is disciplined and physically demanding, strive for fun.
- ★ The coach will have the authority to set the team policy and handle internal disciplinary decisions; this includes playing time of individual players.

**To the GSC organization:**

- ★ Maintain proper conduct at all times.
- ★ Organize registrations of your players and team (DO NOT allow a player on the field unless he or she is registered with GSC and has applied for a players card)
- ★ Attend all coaches and GSC meetings possible.

## **21.0 GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS**



### **Conduct:**

- ★ No foul or abusive language toward referees, players, fans, or coaches; behave as gentlemen and ladies—your child can be removed from the GSC.
- ★ Encourage—do not criticize players, either your own or others.
- ★ Attend games—support your team.

### **Parent Responsibilities:**

#### **To Coaches:**

- ★ Be on time to practices and games; pick up players on time.
- ★ Chain of Command shall be as follows: Communicate concerns to coach; if concerns are not addressed or satisfied, communicate concerns to the Director of Coaching. The Director of Coaching makes handles the situation or defers to the Board.
- ★ Attend games.
- ★ Volunteer to assist the team.
- ★ Let the coach do the coaching.
- ★ Do not criticize players, referees, or coaches.
- ★ Take care of equipment—assist the coaches in controlling possession of the GSC's and players' equipment as they concentrate on the game and practice.
- ★ Most importantly, express your gratitude to the coaches. They receive no pay; they do it for the players and the love of the game. They make mistakes as everyone does. Give them your thanks and patience.

#### **To Other Parents:**

- ★ Work as a team—your kids do.
- ★ Plan team activities together.
- ★ Abide by decisions made on travel, fundraising and other team activities.

#### **To the GSC organization:**

- ★ Conduct yourself as representative of the Gillette Edge and the City of Gillette.
- ★ Volunteer to assist the team.
- ★ Volunteer time to assist in the organization and operation of GSC sponsored activities.

## **22.0 VOLUNTEER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

It is the intent of Gillette Soccer Club, Inc. to reserve the right to deny a volunteer position to any person who has been convicted of a crime of violence, a crime against a person, a felony, or against whom any family service agency has found substantiation of child abuse. Therefore, and in compliance with the mandates of the United States Youth Soccer Association and Wyoming Youth Soccer, all candidate Board members, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, and others as the Board deems appropriate will complete a Volunteer Disclosure Statement prior to the initial assumption of responsibilities and at least biennially (every two years) thereafter.

**2.05.01**

Completion of the form is voluntary; however, no candidate who refuses to provide all of the information required on the form will be allowed to serve as a Board member, coach, assistant coach, team manager, or any other position involving significant, unsupervised contact with minors belonging to the GSC, Inc. Volunteer candidates will be asked to provide a variety of personal information including but not limited to: date of birth, home address, home telephone number, social security number, driver's license number, employment, volunteer and soccer experience. Finally, volunteer candidates will be asked specific questions regarding their criminal history. In providing the information requested and in signing the volunteer disclosure statement, candidates will authorize the Board members to commission a report to disclose a candidate's character, general reputation, or personal characteristics. In so doing, the volunteer disclosure statement may be augmented with information from court records, the department of motor vehicles where the individual is licensed (if applicable), the Department of Family Services (or social service agency equivalent) from Wyoming and/or states where he candidate has resided in the past five (5) years, past or present employers and educational institutions, governmental occupational licensing or registration entities, business or personal references, and any other source to verify information provided.

**2.05.02**

Volunteer Disclosure Statements will be maintained by GSC Secretary for a period of five (5) years from date of submission.

**GILLETTE EDGE SOCCER COMMITMENT TO TEAM, COACH, CLUB, AND SELF****PLAYERS:**

- I have read and am familiar with the GSC published statement of Objectives and Guidelines, a copy of

which is attached hereto. I endorse and agree to live up to and to be bound by those Objectives and Guidelines.

- I commit myself to train and perform to the best of my ability. I will maintain a positive attitude and will strive to meet or exceed all individual and team goals established by myself, my team, and my coach.
- I will attend all team practices and games, punctually, unless prevented from doing so as the result of illness, injury, unforeseen emergency, or other reason approved, in advance by my coach.
- I will maintain control of my emotions during all competition; I will not retaliate when fouled.
- I will treat teammates, coaches, opponents, referees, and the Law of the Games with respect.
- I will not use profanity during practices or games.
- I will not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products while a member of the Gillette Edge. I understand that the violation of this pledge may result in serious disciplinary action, including expulsion from the organization.
- I will promote my team unity by performing as a team player.
- I will adhere to all rules and regulations established by the GSC and my team. The coach has the authority to set the team policy and handle internal disciplinary decisions. This includes playing time of players.
- I make all the foregoing commitments willingly, with the intention that my teammates, coaches, and the GSC will rely on them.

---

Signature of Player

Date

**PARENT/GUARDIANS:**

I have read and am familiar with GSC's published statement of Objective and Guidelines, a copy of which is attached hereto. I endorse and agree to live up to and be bound by those Objective and Guidelines.

---

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date