



JUNIORS

PLAYER HANDBOOK 2008-2009

I have read the CHICAGO FIRE JUNIORS Player Handbook. I accept and agree to abide by all guidelines set forth within.

Player Name

Player Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date





CHICAGO FIRE JUNIORS ★★☆☆

Player Handbook 2008-2009

TRADITION, HONOR, PASSION

Congratulations on being selected to play with the Chicago Fire Juniors. As a member of a highly respected professional organization, under the guidance of the Chicago Fire of Major League Soccer, it should be considered an honor to represent the badge of the Chicago Fire. As such, the expectations for our players are high; the responsibility of wearing the Fire Red with pride is foremost each time we step on the soccer field.

TRADITION, HONOR and PASSION are the virtues our professional team lives by and we, as the youth club HONOR the game; all that have gone before us and those that will follow. We play with PASSION; as there is no other option. And while we follow in the TRADITION that the Chicago Fire have set, we strive to build our own tradition of excellence both on and off the field.

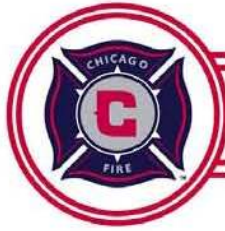
This player handbook will discuss some of the requirements and policies related to wearing the uniform of the Chicago Fire and the Chicago Fire Juniors. Please read through the following pages. If you agree to follow these guidelines, please sign both locations and date the cover page of this handbook and return to your staff coach or the CFJ Office. Players not signing this handbook will not be permitted to participate until so done.

It is with a great sense of excitement that I welcome you to the Chicago Fire Juniors culture. There has never been a greater time to be a part of our soccer club. Unparalleled opportunities await those that strive to excel.

Looking forward to seeing you on the field,

Larry Sunderland
Chicago Fire Soccer
Technical Director
Chicago Fire Juniors
Chicago Fire Premier

www.chicagofirejuniors.com



Player Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct covers specific areas and will apply for the duration of the player's membership with the Chicago Fire Juniors Soccer Club. It is impossible to outline every possible point or situation that may occur while a player is a member of the Chicago Fire Juniors however, it is vital that every player behave as young ladies and/or gentlemen at all times. It is expected that players behave in a manner that reflects positively on them, their teammates, the Chicago Fire Juniors and the Chicago Fire.

Discipline

1. It is the Head Coach's responsibility to establish the rules and guidelines for each individual team *in addition to* those already established by the CFJ and aforementioned in this Player Code of Conduct.
2. It is the Head Coach's responsibility to make sure these policies are adhered to.
3. It is also the Head Coach's responsibility that all players have read and signed the CFJ Player Handbook.

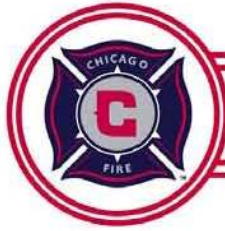
Rules and General Policies

Chicago Fire Juniors Players are expected to:

1. Attend, be prepared and arrive on time for all practices, games and team functions.
2. Avoid inappropriate behavior during practices, games, team or club sponsored events.
3. Conform to the rules established by the Head Coach of your individual team.
4. Maintain a positive individual attitude and support a positive team attitude.
5. Maintain a high level of physical and mental conditioning.
6. Strengthen and/or improve individual skills outside of regular training.
7. Demonstrate sportsmanship.
8. Report any injury to the Head Coach and Manager.
9. Respect the coach, manager, referee, opponent and the game.
10. Approach your staff coach personally with any soccer-related problem.
11. Adhere to the laws of the game.
12. Take victory modestly and defeat graciously.

Further, Chicago Fire Juniors Players will not:

1. Engage in dissent towards an official.
2. Use profane or vulgar language.
3. Use any controlled substance (drugs) unless prescribed by a physician.
4. Leave any team function without notifying Head Coach or Manager.
5. Drink alcoholic beverages or use tobacco products.
6. Take part in any form of gambling related to the outcome of games



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Practice and Field Rules

1. When you report to a training session be mentally and physically ready to perform.
2. Report to training session with enough time allowed for you to prepare your uniform, water, etc. so that training may begin on time.
3. Training officially begins when the coach starts the warm-up.
4. You must wear the prescribed training uniform.
5. You will be required to help staff with carrying balls, water, cones, etc.
6. You will be required to help with any field set-up or break-down.
7. You will be required to keep the field neat and free of training related garbage you may be responsible for.
8. During matches you are required to maintain a professional attitude on the sideline. This includes remaining seated on the sideline unless otherwise instructed by Head Coach. Comments should be kept to a minimum and reserved for positive reinforcement or congratulations/support. "Trash Talking" from the sidelines will not be tolerated.
9. You are required to remain with the team until dismissed by the Head Coach or otherwise excused. This includes injury related instances.
10. The Head Coach is the "Person in Charge" hence; all questions should be directed to him/her.

Dress and Appearance

1. The Chicago Fire Juniors, as the "official" youth club of MLS Chicago Fire are required to wear Adidas uniforms. Adidas is the "official" supplier to the Chicago Fire Juniors. As such, no other uniform pieces (clothing) made by another manufacturer can be worn on game days.
2. All players will wear the prescribed game day uniform.
3. All players will come to training dressed in the prescribed training uniform.
4. All players will have alternate uniform available at matches.
5. All players are responsible for keeping their match uniforms and training uniforms in proper playing condition. This includes playing shoes being maintained properly and uniforms being cleaned regularly.
6. For all matches and training, shin-guards must be worn, socks must be high and shirts must be tucked in.

Dress and Appearance

Please use good judgment when in public wearing Chicago Fire Juniors or Chicago Fire attire. Remember, as a member of the Chicago Fire Juniors organization you represent not only yourself but your team, club and the badge. You are accountable for what you say and do in public.

Travel

1. You will travel per team/club established guidelines for that trip.
2. You will arrive/depart from established location on time. If you are experiencing delays immediately notify the Head Coach and/or Manager.
3. You will follow the rules or other instructions of any person acting in the capacity of a "chaperone."
4. You will be neat and presentable at all times. This includes prescribed dress for the trip.
5. You will be part of any team meal or function unless excused by Head Coach.



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6. You are responsible for all travel documentation – identification, license, passport, etc.
7. You should make arrangements to have sufficient spending money to take care of personal needs while traveling. Under no circumstances will CFJ staff give personal loans to players.

Hotels

1. You are a guest of the hotel or organization providing accommodation. You must do everything possible to maintain a cooperative relationship. It is vital that you behave in a manner consistent with being a Chicago Fire Juniors player.
2. You are to keep your room in a neat and presentable manner at all times. This includes keeping noise at a minimum. Loud music is not conducive to proper game preparation and is intrusive on teammates and other guests. Any broken, missing or stolen items from your room are the responsibility of the player(s).
3. You are responsible for any incidental charges including but, not limited to meals, telephone, movies, etc.
4. Absolutely no guests are permitted in rooms unless permission granted by Head Coach.

Violations

Players failing to follow this Code of Conduct will be punished accordingly by the Head Coach, Director of Coaching and/or the Technical Director. Violations could result in suspension or dismissal from the program.

Consequences for violation(s) of the guidelines set forth in this Handbook include but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning from Head Coach, written warning from Director of Coaching (DOC)
- Reduced playing time, removal from tournament roster for a determined period of time
- Suspension of playing privileges for a determined amount of time
- Dismissal from team and/or club

Additionally,

- All serious violations of the Handbook guidelines resulting in more than verbal or written warning will be reviewed by the Technical Director (TD). Further, a meeting will be held with violating player and parent(s)/guardian(s) prior to any disciplinary action being taken.
- RED CARDS will not be tolerated. All fines and suspensions served are the responsibility of the player. Continued Red Card offenses will be considered a serious violation of this Player Handbook and its guidelines and as such will be subject to review by TD and Board of Directors to determine disciplinary action.

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