

To All Parents:

Zero Tolerance

For many years the North Shore Football League has served minor football in the Lac St. Louis region and has shared cordial relations with the parents, volunteers, coaches and players who cheer, operate, coach and play in this wonderful league. We believe that the North Shore Football league has been and continues to be served by very qualified coaches, administrators, volunteers, referees and has produced exceptional players who have not only learned about the great game of football but many of whom have as well gone on to play at higher levels all the while participating in a physical activity which promotes discipline, focus, effort and fun. Many of us are qualified Level 1, 2 & 3 coaches and have had wonderful experiences with football at some point in time and desire nothing more than to pass on the love for this great game to our youth. How lucky we are to have such a great game which promotes all these positive characteristics.

Nonetheless, the expression of a bad apple spoiling the bunch is as applicable to football as it is to any other activity. In order to protect the positive experience for the whole we need to act swiftly and together to protect the sport from those few who spew negativity, hatred and verbal abuse towards others.

Therefore we are asking coaches, parents and fans to respect a zero tolerance policy of inappropriate behaviour, such as making negative comments whether they are directed at the referees, the players, or even other fans including the use of foul language, inappropriate comments and gestures. The sideline is to be enjoyed by all and is where fans can watch the game, coaches can coach all while encouraging our young athlete's participating to excel.

Zero tolerance encompasses all actions by coaches, parents, fans and players deemed unacceptable by the on field officials of the Lac St. Louis region and the North Shore Football League and its administrators, park directors and executive.

These actions include:

Verbal abuse: Loud complaints about calls, continuous questioning of calls and any disrespect towards officials and other fans is unacceptable. Verbal abuse of opposition players or un-sportsmanship comments to the opposition or other spectators will not be tolerated. This applies to fans, players, parents and coaches.

Physical abuse: Any physical contact or threat implied or otherwise, of physical contact is not acceptable.

Any contravention of these measures will result in a bench penalty (10 yards for objectionable conduct) or immediate expulsion from the game of a player as may be determined by the on field officials. Expulsion from the game would mean that the coach/person/player ejected would have to leave the bench area or the sideline and if severe enough, the park. A referee has the authority to stop the game at any point and request the expulsion of the said person from the park by the appropriate park director or association convenor. The game will recommence only after such abusive person is removed from the park.

In the case that a spectator verbally or physically abuses any other spectator or official at a game or who participates in any form of un-sportsmanship conduct then the spectator will not only be asked to leave the park but may under sanction of the appropriate governing body not attend another game for the remainder of the season.