



## **DOWNTOWN SOCCER TORONTO TEAM GOVERNANCE POLICY 2010**

Downtown Soccer Toronto (DST) encourages athletes of all skill levels to learn, practice and play soccer through our LGBT-supportive organization. All Members, as defined by By-Law 4.1, are expected to uphold the standards set by various league policies, while fostering camaraderie and sportsmanship.

In order to provide the best possible experience for all Members, the important position of Team Leader has been established. Team Leaders are a crucial aspect of the DST and an integral part of the soccer experience. Team Leaders (captains, co-captains) are the liaison between their team and the Executive, facilitate league directives and provide a positive soccer experience for all League Members. As a result of their ambassadorship, Team Leaders are held to a higher standard than the general membership, especially in terms of, but not limited to, the objectives of DST's Disciplinary Policy.

Before the start of the season, the Executive will select a Team Leader for each team. A second Team Leader will be elected by each team through a closed ballot election to be held at the end of the third game of the regular season. The election will be run by an Executive member from another team and that Executive member will tally the results. The team will be notified of the results once they have been approved by the Executive. At that point, the two Team Leaders become the official point of contact for the team and should be approached with any and all concerns regarding games or functioning of the league. If, for some reason, a player cannot speak to his or her own Team Leaders, they should approach the League Ombudsman.

Throughout the season, meetings between Team Leaders and the Executive shall take place no less than once a month. Team Leaders are expected to perform the following duties:

### **1. Build DST's Community**

- 1.1 Encourage equitable playing time, fair play, and help make all team members feel welcome on your team and in the League.
- 1.2 Attend and/or promote fundraising and social events. Please encourage everyone in the league – not just your own teammates – to participate in League events and activities. The more people that come out, the more fun it is for everyone.
- 1.3 Help maintain sponsor relations. It is critical to the League to manage the relationship between the teams and the sponsors. Meet with Events and Fundraising Coordinator to be introduced to the owner/ manager/ key contact (where applicable) and to discuss any specific details. We hope

that your team will frequent your sponsor's establishment (where applicable) or those of our other sponsors.

## **2. Attendance and Record Keeping**

- 2.1 Explain the Attendance Policy to your team and maintain an attendance record throughout the season.
- 2.2 Work with the Membership Coordinator to deal with attendance issues and get additional / replacement players for your team from the Waiting List if necessary.
- 2.3 Provide the League with a record of absences and game statistics (final score, scorers, cards, team MVP, etc.) for each game by emailing the League Game Sheet to the Secretary ([secretary@downtownsoccertoronto.org](mailto:secretary@downtownsoccertoronto.org)), no later than 5pm on the day following your game. This is critical in order to ascertain League Standings and to determine which teams need additional or replacement players.

## **3. Rules and Discipline**

- 3.1 Explain the DST Modified FIFA Rules and DST's Disciplinary Policy [available on our website]. Encourage your players to follow these rules.
- 3.2 Help support and enforce any sanctions placed on individual members delivered by the Referee or the Executive (via the Disiplinary Sub-committee).

## **4. Equipment Management**

- 4.1 At the first game, the Operations Coordinator will provide you and your team with a set of team equipment (e.g. soccer balls, cones, pump) and you will be asked to sign for it. You are responsible for ensuring that this equipment is not lost or stolen.
- 4.2 You are responsible for arranging for your team's equipment to be present for practices and warm-ups prior to the start of the game, to be collected at the end of each practice/game and stored in the interim.
- 4.3 Arrange for the transportation and storage of the League's game equipment to and from the field according to the schedule determined by the Operations Coordinator.

The above list of duties and responsibilities undertaken by Team Leaders is not exhsaustive. Since DST's objective is to provide the best possible experience to Members, amendments may be made during the season.

I have read and understand DST's Team Governance Policy and will follow it to the best of my ability.

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Printed Name

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Signature

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Date