



## Code of Conduct for Traveling Athletes

It is important to remember that as athletes you have other responsibilities when you travel to out-of-town and out-of-country events. Those responsibilities are outlined below and you are expected to abide by these guidelines. Please remember that you are not only representing yourselves, but also your team, the NorthStar Soccer Club, Traverse City, Michigan, and the United States of America, as well as parents and supporters.

The goal of every NorthStar team when traveling is to have whomever we come in contact with throughout our travels say the same thing about us: "That NorthStar team was the BEST group of young people we have ever encountered." Nothing less meets NorthStar expectations.

### **"You never get a second chance to make a first impression"**

How you act and behave is a direct reflection upon your club, your coach, your parents, your town, your state and all of us on the trip. We ask that all athletes, regardless of age, abide by the following basic policies:

Conduct at all times shall reflect honesty, good sportsmanship, courtesy, and respect towards others.

Policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the NorthStar Team and the NorthStar Soccer Club must be followed at all times.

Use of language that is abusive, foul or offensive to others is prohibited.

Possession and/or consumption of any alcoholic beverage (even if it is legal in the country we are in) or any illegal drugs are prohibited.

Theft or possession of stolen property is prohibited.

A willful act of destruction to property of others is prohibited; it is the responsibility of the individual perpetrating such acts to make restitution.

**ROOM/ VISITATION:** NO one of the opposite sex is allowed in ANY Hotel room at ANYTIME. All communication with the opposite sex must be in an open, visible public area.

**SWIMMING/WHIRLPOOL:** We are here for a soccer tournament and everything that we do is geared for that success. Swimming and pool play zaps players strength and energy which is not conducive to helping us on the field. This is not done to be mean -- this is to help insure that you are 100% when we play.

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**HOTELS/LODGING:** A hotel is a place of business; you are NOT the only one paying to stay there. Activities in hallways are prohibited; yelling, loud talking in lobby areas is not allowed. No horseplay inside any area of the hotel. Pick up after YOURSELF - it may be you one day picking up for others.

**CURFEW:** Curfew will be determined by the Head Coach. No one is allowed to leave the hotel during evening free time unless the Head Coach or designated chaperone has granted permission. **NO player** is permitted to leave his/her assigned hotel room after curfew. You are to be **IN YOUR OWN** room at curfew. Coaches and Chaperones need rest too. Please be considerate and oblige.

**ADDITIONAL ROOM CHARGES:** Pay-per-view movies, long-distance phone calls or other services that charge fees will not be permitted in the hotel rooms. Any hotel service charges will be paid by the individual on checkout. Individuals are also responsible for the charges incurred for all phone calls. Except for emergencies, room-to-room calls are prohibited after midnight.

**ATTENDANCE, TARDINESS, DRESS:** Players may NOT leave the tour at any time for any reason, unless the Head Coach or a designated chaperone approves of the absence and renders approval for said absence. Players are expected to participate in all scheduled meals and activities, to be **PROMPT** when meeting for designated activities, and to be appropriately attired.

**TRAVEL ETIQUETTE:** While traveling by air, electronic devices may be used only if they are in compliance with the airline policy. While in transit, only devices with personal headphones will be permitted; abusive language or shouting is not appropriate and will not be tolerated. It is expected that players will cooperate fully with chaperones, coaches, travel personnel, airline attendants, bus drivers, tour guides, hotel personnel, and staff regarding behavior.

**BUDDY SYSTEM:** Players must agree to check in with chaperones according to pre-established team procedures at all times or during sightseeing, meals and shopping times. For safety, players must travel in groups or with a buddy as a minimum. **WEAR A WATCH** and buddy up with someone who has a cell phone.

**BELONGINGS:** It is understood that all personal effects may be subject to inspection by the coach or designated chaperone in the necessary enforcement of the policies and rules of the trip at any time during the tour. There will be no liability on the part of NorthStar, and/or the coaching staff or attending chaperones for any theft or damage to personal effects during the trip. If it's important to you, **KEEP** track of it. **IPODS** are a great thing to steal! **DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE FIELD!**

**BODY- HAIR ALTERATIONS:**

You should look the same when you come home as when you left. This means no body piercing, tattoos, hair colorings, etc. Even if you have your parents with you - and they approve of it - a team travel event is not the time or place for these activities.

**REMEMBER TO LOCK YOUR DOOR WHEN LEAVING THE ROOM OR RETIRING FOR THE NIGHT!! -**

Players who violate or disregard any of the above Standards and Rules of Conduct will meet with the Head Coach and the (involved) chaperones. Appropriate action will be taken and may include loss of playing time, game suspensions (up to and including the players being sent home--upon notification) at the expense of the player's parents or guardians.

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I agree to abide by all rules, regulations, policies, and standards of behavior established by NorthStar and to follow the specific instructions of the Head Coach and/or chaperones in all instances. I understand that the safety and welfare of the group is of the utmost importance.

I understand that I am expected to participate in all group and individual activities. **I understand that all rules, policies and standards of the soccer club remain in force.** I further understand that the use of alcohol and drugs is forbidden.

In the event of any infraction of the rules, the head coaches reserve the right of final decision and may, if deemed necessary, institute disciplinary procedures up to and including limiting or eliminating playing time and exclusion from excursions. If necessary, I will be required to place a collect telephone call to my parents, and/or secondly, my parents or guardians will be required to come to \_\_\_\_\_ (at their expense) and remove me from the trip as the result of any action(s) deemed to be detrimental to the safety or well being of the program or its participants.

I understand that any detrimental behavior on my part may have immediate implications as well as implications when I am back home.

As a player of NorthStar, I agree to act in a responsible, ethical, and positive manner so as to derive the greatest benefits from the trip. I therefore certify that I have read and understand this behavior compliance agreement and that I agree to abide by all provisions.

I, (player) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, agree to all of the above conditions.

I (parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, agree to all of the above conditions.

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