

## "THE GCSL SPIRIT"

GCSL was established in the "Spirit" of coordination, cooperation and communication. This is known as the "GCSL Spirit". The behavior that this "Spirit" creates within GCSL will insure the success of GCSL and each individual member Club. While all Clubs compete with each other on the field and for creation of successful teams, the purpose of the "GCSL Spirit" requires that all GCSL Clubs be bonded together for the benefit of each other and themselves.

Strong and successful Clubs is the foundation of well being and success of GCSL. As an interdependent program, the "GCSL Spirit" recognizes that we must be operated on a basis of ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE and where all Clubs and members of Clubs are to treat each other with respect and dignity.

In order to achieve and more importantly maintain a strong program, the "GCSL Spirit" recognizes that each Club and members of each Club will deal with all other Clubs and members of those Clubs in the manner and way that they would like to be treated if the situation was reversed. This is accomplished when everyone communicates, coordinates and cooperates with each other.

Continuing clear, open, and honest communications between Clubs and within all levels of between the Clubs is the guiding principle of the "GCSL Spirit". This open and honest relationship between Clubs is what is best for GCSL and by definition what is best for all member Clubs and Teams within GCSL.

The following are examples where the Principles of the "GCSL Spirit" works for our combined benefit:

1. During all meetings, all members of the Board of Governor and Trustees are to state their position, give all other members the opportunity to state their position and then take this information into consideration in reaching a decision. There no need for a point - counter point discussions between members as everyone can evaluate the issue from the information that they were provided.
2. The "GCSL Spirit" requires all Clubs to communicate, coordinate and communicate directly with the other GCSL Clubs on all issues between them. Such as:
  - A. All Clubs support the rights of all other Clubs to field teams and compete on the field of play.
  - B. Club Representatives, Coaches and Team Representatives are not to directly contact players on other GCSL teams about joining their team.
  - C. Clubs or coaches of teams from Clubs are not to directly contact coaches in

other Clubs about leaving their Clubs to coach for and/or in another Club. Clubs or coaches are not to ask, tell or encourage parents or players, contact players on other teams to encourage them to switch clubs.

- D. Clubs can advertise and/or direct mail and/or post on the website notices that invite players to their tryouts.
  - E. Clubs / Teams cannot commit positions to any players prior to tryouts.
  - F. Players have the right to contact other clubs and/or teams about joining / transferring to another GCSL club. If it is during the seasonal year, the contacted Club/Team is to notify the Club of the player that they have been contacted. This does not mean that Clubs / teams cannot accept transfers, but to be in the "GCSL Spirit" they need to notify the other GCSL Club of this contact.
  - G. If a Club is contacted by a coach for another GCSL Club about joining their Clubs, the Club must notify the coaches GCSL Club of the contact.
  - H. Coaches who are contacted by another Club about coaching in for that Club are to report the contact to their own Club.
  - I. If the contact is during the seasonal year, any coach changes between Clubs must be approved by the Governing Body. If between seasonal years, the coach may be directly accepted by the other GCSL Club.
  - J. If Coach moves to a new Club he/she cannot just bring his/her team to the other Club. However, the Club may hold tryouts and all players have the right to attend tryouts of their choice.
  - K. The coaches previous Club has the right to hold/conduct meetings with the parents and players of any team whose coach is switching Clubs.
  - L. Any game issue (fan behavior, referee concerns, player behavior, etc.) is to be brought to the attention of and discussed with involved GCSL Club by the other GCSL club. The two Clubs should take needed action to resolve the involved issue(s).
3. The successful conclusion of all games by all of the teams in each Club is an important requirement. Certainly all games not only includes GCSL games, but also includes member Clubs teams participation in Tournament and Cup games. Therefore, the "GCSL Spirit" requires that:
- A. All Clubs and teams are to cooperate with their opponent in rescheduling of games for any GCSL authorized reason. All GCSL teams must be willing to compromise and make whatever adjustments that are needed to get the games rescheduled.

- B. Cooperation, coordination and communication is a must as all teams eventually need the support of other GCSL teams to cooperate with their own rescheduling needs.
  - C. The best result is for the Clubs/Teams to resolve rescheduling issues than to have GCSL Boys/Girls Director be involved and reach a decision on behalf of the two teams.
  - D. If the opposing teams cannot work out a mutually agreeable time to reschedule, the issue is to be handled by the two Club Representatives so that the games are rescheduled within the time line requirement of GCSL following the "GCSL Spirit".
  - E. If a conflict continues to exist so that rescheduling cannot handled by the Clubs within the requirements of GCSL, the two Clubs are to seek the assistance of the Boys/Girls Directors.
4. It is the purpose of "GCSL Spirit" to bracket leagues so that they are grouped for competition in that each league so that teams (without regard to age of the team) will be assigned to the league matching their same ability. When teams are bracketed properly everyone benefits with competition within their ability range.
- A. Teams will be bracketed based on their previous playing records. However, for various reasons there may change since the previous season that could have an impact on the team's ability. These changes will be taken into consideration for bracketing.
  - B. The Director of Coaching for the Club is to submit his/her evaluation of the team, the reason for the change and his/her recommendation for placement.
  - C. The Directors of Coaching (DOC) recommendation is to be based on his/her judgment of the team, but most importantly within the benefit of the "GCSL Spirit" which requires the measurement of this recommendation as to the benefit to GCSL and it's other member Clubs. Recommendations are only to be made only when they benefit the GCSL and the teams who will be impacted by recommendation. Recommendations are not made if they only benefit the Club and/or the individual Team.
  - D. Teams that are new to GCSL will be bracketed based on their ability based on their DOC recommendation following the "GCSL Spirit" as outlined above.

The purpose of the "GCSL Spirit" not only applies to the specific areas listed above, but the "GCSL Spirit" must be applied in all relationships and interactions between all GCSL members. The application of the "GCSL Spirit", is the foundation upon which GCSL is built. It continuous use by all Clubs and Teams will insure the success of

everyone involved in GCSL.