

CODES OF CONDUCT

The following codes of conduct have been adapted from the United States Youth Soccer Association Code.

PARENT'S CODE

Parents should remember:

Children have more need of example than criticism.

Make athletic participation for your child and others a positive experience.

Attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not increase it. A child is easily affected by the outside influences.

Be kind to your child's coach and to officials. The coach is a volunteer giving of personal time and money to provide a recreational activity for your child. The coach is providing a valuable community service, often without reward other than the personal satisfaction of having served the community.

The opponents are *necessary friends*. Without them your child could not participate.

Applaud good plays by your team and members of the opposing team.

Between the exuberance of the winner and the disappointment of the loser, we find a person called a referee. All such persons follow the same creed, to watch every move of every player and call the game to the best of his or her ability.

Do not openly question the referee's judgment, and never his/her honesty. The referee is a symbol of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship.

Accept the results of each game, and encourage your child to:

Be gracious in victory, and turn defeat into victory by working towards improvement.

REMEMBER: The attitude shown by parents at games towards their child, the opposing team, the officials, and the coach influence the child's values and behavior in sports. Criticism, disrespect for officials and opponents by over-anxious or over-protective parents bent on their immediate success rather than the long term benefits, undermines the purpose of sports, and brings stresses into the game beyond those of normal competition. When the adolescent cannot cope effectively with such stresses, it contributes to behavior not in keeping with "*the spirit of the game*".

COACH'S CODE

Soccer is a game for happiness.

The laws of soccer should be regarded as a mutual agreement, the spirit or letter of which no one should try to evade or break.

Visiting teams and spectators are honored guests.

No advantages except those of superior skill should be sought.

Official's decisions should be accepted without looking angry, no matter how unfair they seem.

Winning is desirable, but winning at any cost defeats the purpose of the game.

Losing can be a triumph when the team has given its best.

The ideal is the greatest good to the greatest number.

If the coach is capable, he/she will be able to maintain discipline without becoming an authoritarian. If not, the team will become an unruly gang, unable to respond to group discipline, consequently they will bring no credit to themselves, their coach, their club or the game.

When the coach accepts responsibility to coach a team, he or she accepts a responsibility to the team, the players, the parents, the association and the sport.

The coach should accept sport as part of the human activity and recognize its contribution to the enrichment of life.

PLAYER'S CODE

Play the game for the game's sake.

Be generous when you win.

Be graceful when you lose.

Be fair always, no matter what the cost.

Obey the laws of the game.

Work for the good of your team.

Accept the decision of the officials with good grace.

Believe in the honesty of your opponents.

Conduct yourself with honor and dignity.

Honestly and whole-heartedly applaud the efforts of your teammates and your opponents.