



MPS HOTSPUR

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS



PRACTICES: Players are expected to attend at least 2 of the 3 training session each week during the season. Players are to arrive on time ready to listen and learn. The practice start time is the time practice will begin. This is not the time for the boys to show up and fool around with their boots, shin-guards, etc. Shin-guards, socks pulled up, soccer shorts, cleats, and shirts tucked in will be the dress code for all practices. Each player needs to bring a properly inflated SIZE 4 ball to practice. If a player is late for practice he is expected to jog from the car to the practice field. Nothing looks worse than a player ambling across a field when practice has already begun. If your son will be late or must miss a practice, please send an email to (MPSCook@gmail.com) or call me at (571) 277-1554.

MATCH DAY: A game attitude has to be acquired from the time a player arrives at the game field (30 minutes prior to start). Inappropriate laughing, joking, and fooling around is not part of proper game preparation. Our goal is for soccer to be fun and developing good soccer habits will aid in creating an environment where players enjoy the game while experiencing individual and team success. Players are expected to have BOTH jerseys (Green and White) at every match.

PLAYING TIME: Equal match time is not guaranteed at the travel soccer level. Our policy for the U9-U11 age is that we will make every effort for all players to play at least half of the game. Situations where playing time may be less than half are: lack of practice attendance (includes repeated tardiness), tardy to games (showing up less than 30 mins prior), inappropriate practice behavior, and sideline or game behavior. Players need to see that showing up to practice and trying their best are traits that are rewarded. Nothing can demoralize a player, or a team, more than seeing a teammate who constantly misses practice and goofs off getting equal, or more, playing time than those that are always trying their hardest.

TALKING TO THE COACH: I have an open door policy and am always willing to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. However, there are two exceptions that I must ask you to respect. Playing time/position issues will not be discussed before or directly after a match. Before a match my focus is solely on preparing the players for the upcoming game. After matches there is the possibility that emotions could be running high, especially if your child has not played an amount or position you felt he should. **Please allow 24 HOURS to pass after a match before speaking with a coach about specific game day concerns.** I will always listen to your side of a story, good or bad, and expect you to do the same. Please, no phone calls after 10 PM unless urgent!

PARENT MATCH BEHAVIOR: Each spectator is expected to cheer, **NOT COACH**, all players in a positive manner. Anyone who is being negative, or coaching (any sort of instruction, including “run” or “shoot!!” counts as instruction), will be reminded of our policy and asked to stop by our Team Sideline Liaison. If you are unable to then you will be asked to leave.

My goal is for all players to have fun while learning and enjoying the game of soccer. Our shared goal should be for every player to develop as both individuals and a team. Following these basic guidelines will help us achieve these goals.