



SYSL Code of Conduct

Coaches

1. Coaches shall respect and adhere to all guidelines and regulations established by the SYSL Constitution and/or the SYSL Board of Directors. They shall attend required league meetings and functions on a regular basis.
2. Soccer is the players' game. The primary concern of the coach is the development, welfare and safety of the players they coach. They should also work to provide their players with a positive and enjoyable soccer experience.
3. Coaches should actively seek to learn more about the game of soccer and the Laws of the Game.
4. Coaches bear responsibility for teaching their players to strive for success while playing fairly, observing the Laws of the Game and insuring the highest levels of sportsmanship.
5. Because coaches are responsible for their sideline, it is imperative that they define appropriate sideline behavior to all associated with their team. They should encourage parents to cheer for all players. The SYSL shall follow a zero tolerance policy towards any coach who abuses a referee or an opponent.
6. In both victory and defeat, the coach's behavior shall model grace and dignity. He/she should be a positive role model, set high standards for sportsmanship and have positive reinforcement as part of his/her sideline demeanor.
7. Coaches should make every effort to be punctual for practices, scrimmages and scheduled games. They should organize practices to teach their players the game of soccer in a safe and friendly atmosphere. Positive feedback should be an integral part of every practice.
8. Coaches shall refrain from all manners of personal abuse and harassment toward others, whether that abuse be verbal, physical, emotional or sexual. They shall oppose such abuse and harassment at all times.
9. Coaches must maintain the integrity of the sport. They should not illegally recruit players or bend rules to gain an advantage for their team.
10. If financial matters are involved in their coaching position, a coach must remain beyond reproach. Strict adherence to all SYSL policies and guidelines is mandatory.

Parents, Guardians and Spectators

1. Parents, guardians and spectators are expected to follow this SYSL Code of Conduct (as provided by their coach). They must demonstrate good soccer etiquette when attending any game, scrimmage or soccer practice.
2. Spectators must stay off the field during games. They should stay on a sideline, somewhat near mid-field (in between the two penalty areas). They are not permitted near the goal lines nor near the goal areas. For travel soccer, all spectators must stay on the opposite sideline from the two teams and their coaches.
3. Abusive language and/or inappropriate behavior towards any referee, player, coach or spectator will not be tolerated. Instead, spectators should encourage fair play. They should be positive and respectful to all officials, players, coaches and fellow spectators.
4. Because youth sports would not exist without the proactive involvement of adults, parents and/or guardians should try to volunteer, in some way, to support their child and the game of soccer.
5. All adults should strive to maintain the integrity of the sport. They should learn the rules. They should not illegally recruit players or bend rules to their team's advantage.
6. All parents and/or guardians must comply with the requests of coaches, referees and SYSL board members regarding this SYSL Code of Conduct or the SYSL Constitution.

Players

1. Players must learn the game. They should go to every practice session with the attitude that they will learn something new.
2. Players should be respectful of referees, coaches, spectators and other players. They should encourage fair play and maintain the integrity of the sport. They should not bend the rules or cheat. The SYSL shall follow a zero tolerance policy towards any player who purposely tries to physically injure another player.
3. The use of foul language is strictly forbidden, under any circumstance.
4. Players should always try their hardest.
5. Players should be accepting of a referee's decisions and supportive of a coach's decisions and/or actions.
6. Players should support the activities of their team.
7. Players should talk to their parents on a regular basis about what effect soccer is having on them.
8. Players should strive for good nutrition and fitness. They will avoid smoking and other unhealthy habits.
9. Most importantly, PLAYERS SHOULD HAVE FUN.