

Chambersburg Youth Soccer Association

Parent/Family Code of Conduct

The Chambersburg Youth Soccer Association (CYSA) aims to promote and foster the game of soccer on the youth level. The key element to CYSA's philosophy and soccer experience is a fun family environment that builds positive character. In order to put this in practice, and to promote a high level of competition and community spirit, the CYSA adopts the following "Codes of Conduct".

All parents want their kids to do well and have fun in the activities they pursue. CYSA wants you to be actively involved in positive ways with your child's soccer experiences within CYSA. To do that, you need to first understand your responsibilities as a parent of a child in CYSA.

- **MAKE SOCCER PARTICIPATION FOR YOUR CHILD AND OTHERS A FUN AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCE.**
 - Be supportive. Cheer for the team. Encourage all players. Keep negative comments to yourself, especially those directed at another parent's child. Remember that the players are doing the best that they can and that playing good soccer is more difficult than it looks.
 - **Negative comments directed at any individual player(s) will not be tolerated.** Whether the comments are directly spoken to any player or simply overheard from the sidelines by any player, coach or spectator will result in disciplinary action from the CYSA Board.
 - Keep the game fun. Winning is more fun than losing, but each player should enjoy playing because they love the game. Allow them to become self-motivated. Make sure you take time to enjoy the game yourself.
- **TREAT THE COACH WITH RESPECT:** Be kind and respectful to your child's coach. 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 their personal satisfaction. Without them your child could not participate.
 - Help when asked to by a coach or an official. (Younger age groups require a volunteer to run the lines during a game)
 - **DO NOT COACH.** Let the coaches do the coaching. Let the coaches make adjustments as they see the need. Many times the instruction from a spectator is exactly the opposite of the instruction given by the coach. Allow the players the freedom to make their own decisions and learn from their mistakes. Spectator statements like "Stay Wide", "Clear It", "Pass the ball", "Get Rid of It", "Move Up or Back", etc., tend to undermine the need for players to communicate with each other.
 - Turn your child over to the coach at practice and games. Do not meddle with a coach from the sidelines.
 - If you have a concern to discuss with a coach: please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a practice or game. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach and meeting then often does not lead to a satisfactory resolution. Therefore, call the coach to set an appointment.
 - **Appropriate concerns for parents to discuss with coaches:**
 - Treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
 - Concerns about your child's behavior
 - **Issues not appropriate for parents to discuss with coaches:**
 - Playing time.
 - Team strategy.
 - Other team members.
 - Alert coaches of any player's health conditions.
 - Thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who help with an event or program.

- **ENCOURAGE GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP BY EXAMPLE:**
 - Applaud good plays by your team AND by members of the opposing team.
 - Parents should be cheerleaders. Allow the coach to coach, the referee to officiate, and most of all allow your child to play the game.
 - Be in control of your emotions. Use of inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
 - Accept the results of each game, and encourage your child to: be gracious in victory, and turn defeat to victory by working towards improvement
- **TREAT THE OFFICIALS WITH RESPECT:** Between the exuberance of the winner and the disappointment of the loser, we have the referee. All of them follow the same creed to watch every movement of every player, and to call the game to the best of their ability. DO NOT openly question their judgment, and never their honesty. They are a symbol of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship.
 - Let the coaches approach the officials if they feel the need. The referee may be wrong, but not as often as you are? Have you ever seen a referee change his/her mind because a parent shouted at him or her?
- **LEAVE THE GAME ON THE FIELD:** When the game is over, no amount of comment, question or discussion with the players, officials or coaches can change the outcome. Regardless of the outcome, the coaches will evaluate the performance; reinforce the good things and work to correct the things needing improvement.
- **RESPECT THE OPPOSING TEAM:** Never address players on the other team, except to encourage.
 - Do not engage in game-related discussions with parents or players from the opposing team. We will be playing these teams for many years to come. We want to be known in the soccer community as an organization that has class whether we win, lose or draw. The game score will not be remembered. The argument or inappropriate remarks will be.

All parents and family members of players shall abide by this "Code of Conduct" at all times. Inappropriate behavior that violates this "Code of Conduct" shall result in disciplinary action by the CYSA Board of Directors. I understand, that I (we) will be held responsible for the actions and violations of this "Code" by members of my family.

_____ Initials

I have read and understand the requirements of the Code of Conduct. I will act in accordance with this code. I understand that club officials will and should expect me to follow this code.

Player Name

Parent Signature

Parent Signature

Date: _____

This document must be signed, returned, and on file with CYSA Registrar, prior to the start of the season games, by any player's family interested in participation on any team of CYSA. Otherwise, the player cannot participate in CYSA.

THEY ARE ONLY CHILDREN!

(Reprint from the Oxford Standard)

Don't curse the athletes down there.

They are our children, you see.

They are only just children you know.

They mean a lot to me.

We did not raise our children, dear fan,

For you to call them names.

They may not be super stars,

It's just a soccer game.

So please don't curse those children down there,

They never tried to lose a game,

They're children and you're a fan.

The game belongs to them, you see,

You are just a guest.

They don't need a fan like you,

They need the very best.

If you have nothing nice to say,

Please the athletes alone,

And if you have no manners,

Why don't you stay at home.

So please don't curse those children down there,

Each one's a parent's daughter or son.

Win or lose or tie, you see,

To us they're number one.