

Boonville Soccer Academy Codes of Conduct revised 7/1/2012



Administrators' Code of Conduct:

- Attend meetings and events, and be on time.
- Be caring and responsible.
- Carry out your duties and responsibilities to the best of your ability.
- Pay attention, and ask questions.
- Resolve conflicts constructively.

Coaches' Code of Conduct:

- Be organized and on time.
- Be positive in victory and defeat.
- Let your players be creative.
- Never ridicule or yell at players, coaches, officials, or spectators.
- Prepare your practice sessions to meet realistic objectives.
- Show enthusiasm.
- Teach your players the laws of the game.

Parents' Code of Conduct:

- Applaud good play for both teams.
- Do not be cynical.
- Do not force your child to play soccer.
- Encourage your child to be a team player.
- Encourage your child to play by the laws of the game.
- Recognize the value of the volunteers.
- Show enthusiasm.
- Show respect to players, coaches, officials, and spectators.

Players' Code of Conduct:

- Always come to each training session and match fully prepared and on time.
- Always try your hardest.
- Do not argue with, fight with, or deliberately disrespect the administrators, coaches, fans, officials, opponents, parents, your teammates, or yourself at any time on or off of the field.
- Do not deliberately play outside the laws of the game.
- Do not talk while the coaches are addressing you or the team, and make sure to pay close attention because you will be tested over the information.
- Play soccer for your enjoyment of the game – not just to please others.

MYSA statement about match conduct:

The Board of Directors of the Missouri Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) and the leaders of the affiliated leagues are concerned about the conduct of all coaches and referees during training sessions and matches at all levels, from recreational to professional. We want to ensure that matches are fair, positive, and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer match should be friendly and unifying – a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees, and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to these expectations concerning matches:

- Before, during, and after a match, be an example of dignity, patience, and positive spirit.
- Before a match, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the officials.
- During a match, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible, or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
- During a match, you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- During a match, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team. Encourage spectators to applaud and cheer for good play by either team. Discourage them from yelling at players and the referee; you may need to be forceful and direct.
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the officials were unfair, biased, unfit, or incompetent, report your opinion to your league. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After a match, thank the officials and ask your players to do the same.

MYSA stresses two points:

Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long-term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. If you encourage, or allow, your players to play outside the rules, if you are overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice. Think about what you are doing during a match! Uphold the Spirit of the Game! If you follow the expectations described above, the spirit of the game will be alive and well in Missouri and will grow, along with the enjoyment of all.

Referees, especially young and inexperienced ones, are like your players and yourself in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes, and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them, and inciting or accepting your own players' overly aggressive behavior.

Coaches who do not follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed.