

# Girard Youth Soccer League 2016 Handbook

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## Welcome

Soccer, like other sports, began with the support of community volunteers many years ago. As its popularity increased and programs expanded, the need for a formal, separate entity to organize and operate the sport within the community was apparent. Eventually this resulted in the incorporation of the Girard Youth Soccer League (GYSL), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation.

Today, the GYSL has over 100 adult volunteers providing fee-based recreational services to approximately 500 youth in the Girard community. Managed by its participants, its greatest assets are the many volunteer coaches, coordinators and board members.

In the future we look forward to building a new exclusive soccer complex at Liberty Park. We are grateful to live in a community that provides attractive parks and facilities to allow soccer to be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for the city of Girard. This handbook was designed to inform participants, particularly coaches, of the rules and regulations of the GYSL within our soccer community. Hopefully, this effort will generate feedback to make improvements in our programs.

## GYSL 2014 Governance

President – Tonya Carpenter  
Vice President – Mandie Brookbank  
Secretary – Ray Carpenter  
Treasurer – Tim Brookbank  
Board Member – Lindsay Durkin

## GYSL Soccer Programs

Recreation programs are offered starting from U-5 through U-15. The “U” stands for “under” that particular age, using August 1st as the determining cutoff date recognized by the United States Soccer Association (USSF).

All teams will play 16 games, 1 game during the week (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday) and 1 game on Saturday beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> week of August. Each team will practice 6 times, Twice per week the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of August. Coaches may call an additional practice during the season if they need to.

GYSL has a no refund policy, if your child decides not to play you will not receive your money back unless a replacement is found for your child that can wear the same uniform size.

## Team Composition

The Girard Youth Soccer League forms recreational program teams of registered players within the community. In the simplest terms, a “recreation team” has players assigned to it by the league.

### **Specifically, per US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules, a recreation league has teams in which:**

- the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any similar process to roster players to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited;
- the organization administering the league accepts as participants in the league any eligible youths
- Because of the above, it is against league policy to allow any carded (travel) player to play with the team at any event;
- a system of rostering players is used to establish a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating; and
- league rules require that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.

The Girard Youth Soccer League separates teams by gender (except for U-6s and U-15s) primarily due to the large number of participants and as a convenient way to group teams for scheduling purposes.

Birth date is used to determine the player’s age group using August 1st as the established cutoff. In general GYSL does not attempt to keep a specific group of players together. Random assignment of players to teams increases the likelihood of achieving a balance or equilibrium among teams by mixing novice with experienced players, older with younger aged players, skilled with less skilled players, along with coaches of varying demeanor. In addition, as players proceed through age groups, the number of players assigned to a team may vary, as may the total number of teams within a given age group. An inevitable change in the makeup of teams occurs.

GYSL will not take requests for any reason including but not limited to transportation, friends or certain coaches.

## Misrepresentation

Any person who submits or uses or who knowingly permits the submission of or use of a fraudulent birth certificate, player registration form, coach registration form, team roster, or any other document shall, upon a finding that the complaint is valid, shall suspend any offending party, that is an adult, for a minimum of three years. The GYSL has established that the offending player may be suspended for the remainder of the seasonal year and forfeit remaining fees paid for that year. These requirements shall be applicable whether the document was prepared or submitted during the use of an internet based laws or through the use of a manual form.

## Age Verification

In order to verify the correct age of a participant, the Girard Youth Soccer League asks for a copy of the birth Certificate. The information is not used for any other purpose and will be routinely destroyed in a manner to maintain identity security.

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## Right of Refusal

The Girard Youth Soccer League reserves the right to suspend or refuse an individual or family's participation in its programs for cause. Reasons may include any sort of litigation (or threat thereof), claims, persistent misconduct, delinquency, harassment, etc.

## Guidelines for Parents

- Commit to transporting your child to and from practices and games on time.
- Notify GYSL of change in status (decided to play or not play, change of address or phone, age or school correction).
- Prepare your child appropriately for games and practices:
  1. Shinguards are required at all times, covered by soccer socks.
  2. Bring a soccer ball: Size 3 for 4 and 5/6; size 4 for 7/8 and 9/10; size 5 for 11/14.
  3. Shoes (soccer) without sharp toe cleats (baseball shoes are not acceptable).
  4. Players have a choice of removing (not covering) earrings, jewelry, etc., or not playing.
  5. In cold weather, wear warm clothing UNDER the team jersey with a coat available when sitting out a period.
  6. Headgear may include any kind of soft covering (no hard-brimmed caps). Please note headgear is subject to referee approval.
  7. Long pants are not acceptable except when very cold (under 50° at least). They will become cumbersome and do not allow the referee to easily judge plays by sock color.
- While at the game:
  1. Watch from the side of the field opposite the team, behind the spectator line.
  2. Do not stand behind the goal line or goalie.
  3. Do not enter the field of play without the referees permission.
  4. Never argue with a referee, especially a youth referee.
  5. Shout only positive comments and encouragement.
  6. Pick up your trash as you leave.
  7. Leave your pets at home
  8. No smoking on the side of the field, if you need to smoke please do so in an area where the children and spectators are not.
  9. Park only in designated areas.If, in the opinion of the referee, a spectator is deemed to be unruly, the referee is empowered to demand they leave the area of the field before play resumes.

## General Rules for Coaches

The Girard Youth Soccer League congratulates those who have bravely accepted the title of **COACH**. This is a recreational league dedicated to the enjoyment and development of soccer. Your emphasis as coach will be to see that your team has **FUN LEARNING** the game. Everyone loves to have a winning season, but the emphasis should be placed on the child's welfare and not the team's standing.

### ■ Coaching Qualifications

- Have an interest in working with a group of children toward learning the sport of soccer, building camaraderie and team spirit, and having fun.
- Follow the Coach's Code of Conduct
- Satisfactorily complete a risk management/volunteer disclosure form.
- Have a telephone number available to GYSL and the team's members.

### ■ Coach's Code of Conduct

To successfully accomplish our organization's mission and the goals of GYSL, we encourage only behavior which exhibits good sportsmanship and prohibits behavior which is negative, disruptive, and not in keeping with the spirit of a program designed for the growth and enjoyment of children. The code of conduct's primary purpose is not to be punitive, but to clearly communicate in advance that negative behavior has consequences. GYSL strives to maintain an atmosphere in which competition, fair play, and gracious winning or losing exists for everyone in the league

- I will be a positive role model for my players, leading by example by always demonstrating sportsmanship and emphasizing fair play.
- I will demonstrate a positive attitude towards youth sports, not embarrassing myself or any other participant by yelling or creating a scene. I will keep winning and losing in perspective and applaud good effort in victory and defeat.
- I will treat all players, parents, coaches, referees, and others associated with GYSL programs with respect including addressing players and referees in a positive manner. Under no circumstances will a coach use physical force and/or verbal abuse with players from any team.
- Coaches will ensure that each player receive 50% playing time for each game attended (except where an injury has occurred), significant experience at all positions, and equal opportunities to start games for each player.
- I will strive to be consistent, honest, fair, and just in treating my players. I will seek to be both a good communicator and listener. I will be generous in praise and never criticize publicly.
- I will maintain an open line of communication with the parents and encourage them to participate positively.
- I will become knowledgeable in the rules of the sport, teach them to the players and support all league policies and regulations.
- I will always inspect practice and game venues to insure safe playing conditions. I will require players to be properly equipped at all times. I will teach safe and proper techniques.
- I will create a healthy environment for sports by refraining from drug, alcohol and tobacco use.
- I will treat all players with respect, realizing that sport is for youth, not adults.
- I understand that to play the game is great, but to love the game is better.

The GYSL Board of Directors will address violations of this Code of Conduct. Consequences range from a warning to the loss of coaching privileges.

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## ■ Playing Time

GYSL regulations require that each player must play at least one-half of each game in recreation leagues except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline. Just because "John" is a better player than "Sam" doesn't mean that Sam isn't entitled to his time on the field.

## ■ Game Protocols

- Coaches (as with anyone) are not allowed on the field during the game in any age group except the 4 year olds. If there is an injury requiring coach attention, the referee will give the coach permission to enter the field.
- The coach will emphasize skills, good sportsmanship, and team spirit rather than winning at all costs.
- Coaches are expected to stay within their team's "tactical" area, between the penalty box line (18 yard line) and within one-yard of the halfway line as well as one-yard away from the touch (side) line on their designated side of the field. The area from the 18-yard line to the goal line and behind the goal should always be clear of spectators, coaches and others. Referees have the authority to enforce location.
- Substitutes are to be at the half-line of the field prior to the substitution time and may be ignored if time is about to expire (last two minutes).
- In cases where a game is stopped for an injury and coaches are permitted to enter the field, the player is expected to leave the field. On injuries, when a player is replaced, the GYSL allows all subs at the halfway mark to substitute for either team.
- A team may have a maximum of three adults in a coaching capacity on the sideline.
- Teams must switch goals at the half.
- Teams are to be opposite from the parent's side of the field.
- Coaches may relay tactical information and encouragement. They may not scream or berate players, officials or parents.
- Coaches are to line up with their team and "shake hands" following a game.
- No guest, sibling, unregistered or select (carded) player may play on your recreation team. Penalty includes forfeiture of all games and coach dismissal from league.
- The use of artificial noisemakers, i.e. air horns, tambourines, megaphones, bells, whistles, bugles, or other such devices during any GYSL league or tournament game by players, coaches or spectators is prohibited.

## ■ Game Control with Yellow and Red Cards

The referee uses a whistle and colored cards to control the game. The referee is permitted to issue either a caution (yellow card) or a send-off (red card) to a coach or player, immediately before, during, and/or immediately after a game so as to document the coach's or player's action. A coach may substitute for a player receiving a yellow card. Receiving two yellow cards equals a red card (usually signified by holding up a yellow card, followed immediately by displaying a red). A red card requires a player to leave the game immediately and prohibits them from participating in the next game. A coach receiving a red (send off) card must leave the vicinity of the field immediately and not participate in any manner in the next game. Yellow and red cards issued shall be reported by the referee to GYSL administrators. A parent or spectator ejected during the game (whether or not a red card is displayed) must leave the vicinity of the game immediately.

## ■ Letting Up

All coaches should be willing to "let up". A team substantially ahead of their opponent should let up on their offensive tactics and use this opportunity to give players with less ability additional playing time; to concentrate on developing tactical skills as a team rather than scoring; and to reposition players to less familiar positions. What constitutes a substantial lead is subjective in every age group, but many consider a 5 – 0 score cause for letting up. It's great to win, but there is no useful purpose in devastating your opponent. Let the other team leave the field with some dignity.

## ■ Rotating Positions

All players are entitled to play a variety of positions. Jane should never be banished to fullback just because Susie and, quite possibly, everyone else is better than she. **This especially pertains to the younger groups.** Limiting a child to one position diminishes the opportunity to learn and improve other skills. Jane may not show much skill in a certain position at the beginning of the season, but may be great at it by the fifth game. If she had been banished to fullback, you would have never known. Goalie is an intimidating position for many children to play. Never try to place a reluctant player in the goalie box. This can be a terrible experience for the younger child. Ask for players willing to be goalie.

## ■ Team Practices

Each team receives 6 scheduled practices the 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of August. If a coach would like to call a practice during the season they may. The coach must let GYSL know of the practice time and location. No practice may interfere with GYSL games.

## ■ No Rescheduled Recreation Games

If you cannot field a team with the minimum number of players for your age group, contact the GYSL as soon as possible so that referees can be canceled.

## ■ Rainout Procedures

In the event of strong downpours or significant rainfall resulting in flooding or standing water on the fields, games may be cancelled for the day or, for a portion of the day.

Weekday games – A determination to cancel will be made between 3:00 and 4:00 pm.

Saturday games - A determination to cancel is made early Saturday morning.

We will update the rain line and the website as soon as a decision has been made. Check your schedule or the website for the rain line number. Sometimes, it is not possible for us to call the games ahead of time due to the unpredictability of the weather. It is the responsibility of the coaches and players to know whether the game is cancelled or not. Generally, games cancelled due to inclement weather cannot be made-up. GYSL will make a final decision on make up games mid season dependable on how many have occurred.

## ■ Bleeding and Bloodborne Pathogens

A player who is bleeding or has blood on their uniform is required to leave the field of play. The player may return to the field only when bleeding has stopped and the uniform cleaned (rinsed thoroughly with water) or changed. For additional protection, cover any cuts or scrapes. These precautions will help reduce the transmission of blood-borne infections. Basic first aid equipment is available at each field. We also have a defibrillator in the concession stand.

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## ■ Attention to Medical Concerns

Parents should inform coaches of their child's team of medical conditions that may affect the player's health or ability to play. Coaches through communications with GYSL or via rosters may be informed of medical information that may affect the player's health or ability to play. **This information is confidential and may be illegal to disseminate.** If a team roster is distributed, it should not include any medical information.

Casts are not permitted to be worn during GYSL games or practices because of the potential harm to the other players on the field. Smaller devices such as glasses and hearing aids (including cochlear implants) are acceptable to wear during play and are not considered a disability. Soccer specific protective headgear is also acceptable. Some additional restrictions may be placed on goalkeepers due to their specialized functions.

Coaches are urged to exercise caution in the use of first aid. Coaches are not to dispense any medication for any reason.

## ■ Concussion Policy (state of Ohio mandated)

All coaches, referees and board members must take concussion training through the State of Ohio before they can be on the field with players. Please refer to [www.saysoccer.org](http://www.saysoccer.org) for the complete policy.

### Concussion Facts:

1. A concussion is a brain injury or trauma caused by a hit or a blow to the head/body, contact with the ground, ball or another player.
2. Most concussions occur without a loss of consciousness.
3. The severity of injury will depend on many different factors and is not known until symptoms resolve and brain function is back to normal.
4. All concussions are not created equally. Every player is different, every injury is different.
5. After concussion is suspected, you should leave the field of play immediately and not return, before consulting a doctor.

### Symptoms and signs of a possible concussion in youth soccer players include:

1. Headaches
2. Blurry, fuzzy or double vision
3. Sensitive to light and or noise
4. Concentration problems or memory loss
5. Feeling sluggish
6. Slurred speech
7. Balance and dexterity problems or dizziness
8. Vomiting or weak stomach
9. General confusion
10. Slow reaction time
11. Difficulty concentrating
12. Irritable
13. Sleep disturbances
14. Loss of consciousness

### Return To Play Procedure:

1. If a player is suspected of having a concussion, seek medical attention immediately.
2. Youth players should be kept out of all athletic activities including practice when a concussion is either suspected or diagnosed.
3. While the brain is healing from a trauma athletes are significantly more likely to receive a second concussion if they begin athletic activity too soon.
4. Keep possibly concussed athletes away from any cognitive activities that require concentration or intense focus.
5. Activities such as computer work, lengthy TV watching and playing video games should be avoided.
6. Do not give any medication to an athlete who is suspected of having a concussion unless it was previously prescribed or authorized by a physician after the trauma.
7. You can only return to training or game activity after being physically cleared and signed off by a doctor.
8. Contact a league board member or see the concession stand for a Return to Play Form.

## ■ Concession Stand

Each team is required to supply 4 volunteers to work in the concession stand for a two hour period each season. The date and time will be listed on your team game schedule. It is very important that you show up for your scheduled time. Teams that do not show up will be penalized with cancelled games. Teams may now opt to pay \$40 instead of working the concession stand. You must talk to a Board Member during practice weeks to take advantage of this offer.

## ■ Names on Uniforms

GYSL prohibits the placement of children's names on their GYSL jerseys.

## ■ Privacy Disclosure and Web Sites

The name, address or phone number of youth participants will not be publicly disclosed via the Girard Youth Soccer League web site or any web site constructed by or for its participants. Currently on team schedules, only the coach's name or team name is listed in association with a specific team. Violators are subject to disciplinary action.

## ■ Forming an Indoor Team

The Girard Youth Soccer League operates sanctioned outdoor leagues for fall. We have no relation with any indoor soccer facilities and do not endorse any facility. Anyone may put together an indoor team, pay the fee, and play. Indoor teams are put together by interested parties. Coaches or parents may form an indoor team with children from their recreation team or from around the neighborhood.

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## ■ GAME SUSPENSION REQUIREMENTS:

**In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, the referee should immediately suspend the game.**

1. If thunder is heard, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
2. If lightning is seen, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
3. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains. If the game official does not immediately suspend the game when any one of the points above have occurred, the head coach from each team can agree that one of the three criteria listed above have occurred they are to withdraw their teams from the field.

No one should retake the field or re-start the game until all of the lightning and thunder or other hazardous weather has left the area. Specifically, no one should retake the field for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or the dangerously high winds have passed.

## Goalpost Dangers

Many articles in the press have been written about goalposts falling over, resulting in injuries or deaths. It is without exaggeration to say this is a concern throughout the soccer community and has resulted in at least one death in central Ohio. Nearly every coach can relate a story about "how little 'Jimmy' nearly was hit with that falling goal at practice the other night." The danger is inherent in the design of goals. They are top heavy as a result of having a horizontal crossbar at the top and require pegs or other device to anchor them to the ground.

**Unanchored goals fall over because they are not secured to the ground and:**

- Any relatively strong wind will knock them over.
- Players climb on, hang from, or climb the net of a goal and tip it over.

**Goals are found not anchored with pegs because:**

- Coaches and teams move the goals to facilitate a practice.
- Field setup for games or practices, including goal placement, has not been completed.
- Goals were moved to facilitate mowing or field lining and not replaced.

Death and injuries are usually the result of impact from the goal falling over and hitting the head or chest. Before practice or games, coaches and referees should check to see that sufficient pegs are in place to anchor the goal to the ground. For games, the referee is responsible for determining a field is safe to play. For practices, coaches should be sure goals are secure or place sufficient weight on the ground strip to keep the goal from tipping. Regard any field not set up for an assigned game as potentially unsafe.

**Make sure all goals are secure to the ground!**

## Risk Management

### ■ Volunteer Disclosure Statement

The Girard Youth Soccer League, as part of its affiliation with Say Soccer, participates in a risk management program as a second line of defense for recognizing and addressing sexual abuse and exploitation in youth sports. As such, we require all adults recognized as coaches, co-coaches or assistants to complete a volunteer disclosure form. Each person will have a background check performed on an annual basis. Serious concerns should be brought to the immediate attention of the Risk Management Program Coordinator for GYSL, Tim Brookbank (330) 423-5856.

In addition, under laws of the state of Ohio, we are required to provide volunteers for our league with the following notice:

### ■ NOTICE TO VOLUNTEERS

A provision of recently passed legislation by the Ohio General Assembly requires organizations such as GYSL to notify prospective and current volunteers who have or will have unsupervised access to children on a regular basis that they may, at any time, be subject to a criminal records check. "Unsupervised access" means that the person in question has access to a child and either of the following applies: (1) No other person 18 years old or older is present in the same room with the child or (2) if outdoors, no other person 18 years old or older is within a 30-yard radius of the child or has visual contact with the child. Volunteers in this capacity might, at any time, be required to provide a set of fingerprints and a criminal records check might be conducted. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII) would conduct the criminal records check. In addition to Ohio law, Say Soccer the soccer governing authority with which we are affiliated, requires the Girard Youth Soccer League to have all individuals that have access to children complete a Volunteer Disclosure form as part of their Risk Management Program. To comply with Say Soccer, an individual must complete the Volunteer Disclosure form prior to GYSL recognition as a coach or co-coach. A GYSL roster will be released only to an individual who has completed a Volunteer Disclosure form. If you have any questions, please contact GYSL.

### ■ Zero Tolerance Policy Against Abuse

GYSL is committed to providing a safe environment for its members and participants, and to preventing abusive conduct in any form. Every member of this organization is responsible for protecting our participants and ensuring their safety and well being while involved in sponsored activities. To this end, we have established the following guidelines of behavior and procedures for our staff, volunteers and participants. All members of this organization, as well as parents, spectators and other invitees are expected to observe and adhere to these guidelines.

1. Abuse of any kind is not permitted within our organization. This means we do not tolerate physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse or misconduct from our players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents or spectators.
2. Physical and sexual abuse, including, but not limited to, striking, hitting, kicking, biting, indecent or wanton gesturing, lewd remarks, indecent exposure, unwanted physical contact, any form of sexual contact or inappropriate touching, are strictly prohibited within our organization.
3. Emotional abuse or verbal abuse is also prohibited. These include, but are not limited to such forms of abuse as: yelling, insulting, threatening, mocking, demeaning behavior, or making abusive statements in regard to a person's race, gender, religion, nationality/ethnicity, sex or age.

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4. We are committed to providing a safe environment for our players, participants and staff. We do so by appointing all coaches, officials and volunteers -and anyone else affiliated with our organization-as protection advocates. Every member of this organization is responsible for reporting any cases of questionable conduct or alleged mistreatment toward our members by any coach, official, volunteer, player, parent, sibling or spectator.
5. Buddy System: We recommend that every activity sponsored by our program put a Buddy System in place. Each youth participant should be assigned a buddy during sponsored activities. No child should go anywhere -to the bathrooms, locker rooms, or other location -without his or her buddy.
6. To further protect our youth participants, as well as our coaches, officials and volunteers, we strongly advise that no adult person allow him/herself to be alone with a child or with any group of children during sponsored activities.
  - If you must have a private conversation with a youth participant, do it within view of others.
7. We want to empower our children to trust their feelings and let them know that their concerns, fears and hopes are important by listening to them. Open communication between children and parents, or between children and other adults in the organization may help early warning signs of abuse to surface.
8. We encourage parents to become as active as possible in sponsored activities, games, practices and other events. The more the parents are involved, the less likely it is for abusive situations to develop.
9. We will respond quickly to any and all allegations of abuse within this organization. This information will be communicated to the authorities for investigation and will be reviewed by the organization's directors. The alleged offender will be notified of such allegations promptly.
10. Any person accused of sexual or physical abuse may be asked to resign voluntarily or may be suspended by the board until the matter is resolved. Regardless of criminal or civil guilt in the alleged abuse, the continued presence of the person could be detrimental to the reputation of the organization and could be harmful to the participants. A person who is accused but later cleared of charges, may apply to be reinstated within the organization. Reinstatement is not a right, and no guarantee is made that he or she will be reinstated to his/her former position.
11. We promote good sportsmanship throughout the organization and encourage qualities of mutual respect, courtesy and tolerance in all participants, coaches, officials and volunteers. We advocate building strong self-images among the youth participants. Children with a strong self-image maybe less likely targets for abuse; similarly, they may be less likely to abuse or bully others around them.

## Referees

NEVER argue with a referee, especially a youth referee. All refs, like all humans, make mistakes. Keep in mind this is just a game and a bad call is not the end of "Sue's" soccer career. However, yelling at a youth ref could be the end of a coaching career! If you find yourself or a player in the middle of a confrontation, send for help immediately. The concession stand workers have the cell phone numbers of all staff at the field.

**All referees have completed a certification course. The responsibilities of the referee are varied, but include:**

- Maintain safe play by adequately controlling the game.
- Maintain safe equipment by checking goals, fields and uniforms.
- Applying the rules of soccer with fairness & consistency
- Enforcing areas where players, coaches and spectators are expected to stand.
- Maintaining a sportsmanlike atmosphere.

The authority of the referee takes effect from the time he/she is in the vicinity of the field until he/she leaves the area of the field. KEEP IN MIND that the referee may award a caution (yellow card) or a send off (red card) to maintain control of the game environment. A card can be awarded before or after a match. Yellow and red cards issued shall be reported by the referee to the GYSL president. A card may not be displayed when a caution or send-off is given a coach or spectator. A team's coach may be asked to help quiet an unruly parent. A send-off (red card) requires a player or coach, at a minimum, to sit out the following game of that season. The initial penalty/suspension by a referee is not subject to appeal. The referee may suspend play pending resolution of any conflicts.

## Grievance Procedures

From time to time, conflicts may arise from interactions or issues with a coach, referee, league official or other organization.

**GYSL expects conflicts to be resolved in the following manner:**

1. Discuss the matter with the responsible party. Tell them of your concerns and listen carefully to their response. Make sure both parties clearly and calmly understand the issue.
2. If, after this discussion, the issue has not been resolved, notify site officials first, if available, then the president.
3. GYSL staff will investigate all aspects and evaluate the merits of the conflict and render a decision.
4. Ultimately, the full GYSL Board of Directors has authority regarding any soccer related matter.

Thank you for being involved in the Girard Youth Soccer League! We look forward to a very exciting season!