



The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) has a respect campaign. During Champions league matches all players wear a patch on their sleeve like the one above. The Respect campaign promotes the crucial idea of respect across the game. Respect for opposing players, coaches and officials, referees, opposing supporters – and the essential values of football as a sport open to all.

What's interesting is that UEFA gives both examples of positive and negative attitudes about what respect is and what it looks like in a soccer match. Look at a few of the examples of positive and negative respect and see if you agree.

The following **positive attitudes** are taken into consideration (non-exhaustive list):

- a. efforts to gain time (e.g. bringing the ball quickly back into play, even when in a winning position);
- b. helping an opponent to stand up; 6 II – Fair play assessment at UEFA competitions
- c. helping an injured opponent;
- d. shaking hands with opponents at the end of the match; e. congratulating opponents;
- f. extraordinary gestures of fair play (e.g. informing the referee if a corner or throw-in should have gone to the other team).

The following **negative attitudes** are taken into consideration (non-exhaustive list):

- a. time-wasting;
- b. tactics based on foul play;
- c. play-acting and simulation of injury;
- d. insulting opponents;
- e. provoking a mass confrontation;
- f. serious fouls against opponents;
- g. spitting at an opponent;
- h. physical aggression towards an opponent (e.g. head butt, punch);
- i. racism and other discrimination.

Here are a few things you can do at home, at school and on the soccer field to develop positive character strength of respect.

Activities you can do at home:

- a. Make a list of people that you think show respect. How do they show respect?
- b. Make a list of people that you think you should show respect to. Why should you show respect to these people?
- c. Why is it important to show respect?
- d. How do you show respect in the classroom?
- e. How can you show respect on the soccer field?
- f. How can you show respect at home?

For the next week, practice showing respect at home, in school and on the soccer field. Write down examples each night in a notebook of times that you demonstrated the positive character strength of respect.