

Disciplinary Action Protocol



This protocol has been established to respond to any players or guardians found to be in violation of the Iowa Rush Parent/Spectator's Code of Conduct from our Select Policies.

3.1 Parent/Spectator's Code of Conduct

- **Support all Players and Coaches**
 - Make your team participation a top priority.
 - Assure that your player is on time and prepared. Be prompt when picking up after practice.
 - Promote the concept that soccer is a game.
 - Treat the players and coaches on the other teams as opponents, not enemies.
 - Educate your child to play within the spirit and written rules of the game.
 - Never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
 - Be honest about your child's athletic capability, his or her competitive attitude and sense of Fair Play.
- **Support Iowa Rush**
 - Meet the club's financial and other requirements promptly and responsibly.
 - Volunteer to assist the team or the club in some manner.
 - Do not seek out and recruit players and/or parents of players from other clubs.
- **Respect all players, coaches, officials, other parents/spectators.**
 - Show your best behavior. Do not use profanity or harass players, coaches, or officials.
 - Always show respect to the official's decisions.
 - Applaud good play by your team and the opposing team.
 - Do not engage in coaching from the sidelines
 - Do not try to influence the makeup of the team
 - Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during competition.

3.2 Coaching from the sidelines - This may be the hardest adjustment that a parent has to make but it is important to learn to modify your natural instinct to instruct your child. It's OK to tell your child to run, but not to run there. That is, do not yell, "Go to the goal!" or, "Watch number 11!" That may not be his job and he would be going against his coach to listen to you and may let his team down. Further, if it is his job, he's got to learn it on his own. In soccer, neither you nor his coach can make the evolving split-second decisions your players must make for themselves. Let them learn.

3.3 Comments to the referee - Harassing the referees is not acceptable behavior in soccer, especially youth soccer. A referee CANNOT change a ruling. He CAN develop an attitude against a team based on sideline behavior, which can affect future calls. He CAN demand that you leave the game. Remember, although trained and licensed, like our players, they are not professionals.

3.4 Complaints - Complaints from referees and/or opposing teams about Iowa Rush parents will be reviewed with parent and the coach. As a result you could be "sanctioned" including: required to attend Fair Play classes; "yellow card" caution or; "red card" sent off and not allowed to watch your child play from the sidelines. If you do not comply, it may be that your player may not be allowed to continue with Iowa Rush. We expect and demand appropriate behavior from our players and that behavior begins with parents.

3.5 Parent to Coach Communication - Coaches need to be able to use the allotted time they have with players during training to help them develop and prepare. Parents, players, and coaches need time to reflect and process performance. Parents are asked to refrain from approaching coaches immediately after the game to discuss their concerns. We also ask that parents not approach coaches immediately prior to, during, and after training unless absolutely necessary.

At which time a player and/or guardian is found to have violated one or more of the written policies, Iowa Rush will take the following actions.

- First offense - The player and/or guardian will receive an immediate verbal warning. Whether the offender is a player or a guardian, the affected players will be removed from the game while the verbal warning is given.
- Second offense - The player and/or guardian will receive a written warning within 48 hours of the end of the game. If the offender is a player, he or she will not be able to play in the next game. If the offender is a guardian, he or she will not be able to attend any Iowa Rush games for the remainder of the season.
- Third offense - The player will be released from the club without refund.