



KANSAS RUSH SOCCER CLUB

Parent Code of Conduct

As a parent, you play a special role in the development of your daughter or son, and of his/her teammates. Your encouragement and good example will do more to ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline than any other influence. The other team is the opponent, not the enemy, and should be treated with respect. While winning is important, playing well and fairly is the essence of the game.

1. Support your child

Support your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in his/her team. Help your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are more important than a victory.

2. Always be positive

Children learn more by example than by criticism. Work to be a positive role model, and reinforce positive behavior in others. Applaud good plays by others on your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team. Do not criticize any child's performance from the sidelines. Accept the results of each game. Teach your child to be gracious in victory and to turn defeat into victory by learning and working towards improvement.

3. Don't be a sideline coach or referee.

Refrain from coaching or refereeing from the sidelines. Parents who shout or scream from the sideline often give inappropriate advice at the wrong time. The coach should be the only sideline voice giving instruction. Remain well back from the sidelines and within the spectator area. You and your child will both enjoy the game more if you put some emotional distance between yourself and the field of play. Officials are symbols of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship. They are also human and will make mistakes. Leave any concerns with the officiating to the coach.

4. Demonstrate a positive attitude towards your opponents and their families.

Opponents are not enemies. Never allow yourself to be drawn into a verbal disagreement with opposing parents or coaches. No one has ever regretted letting "cooler heads prevail."

5. Remember that your child wants to have fun

Your child is the one playing soccer, not you. Children must establish their own goals – and to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose unreasonable demands on your child. Let your children experience the fun of playing as well as the challenge of excelling.



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Parent Code of Conduct (cont.)

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these Pillars of Character. I therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports and will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for them, not for me.
2. I will communicate with my child's coach about any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others. I will make every effort to have my child attend practices and games and will communicate with my child's coach if my child will be late or absent. Good communication between parents and coaches leads to a more positive experience for all involved.
3. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the club and league. Knowing the rules of the game will help with development and minimize confusion and disagreements.
4. We will not give our child soccer specific instruction. We agree to leave all of the coaching to the coach and to direct our child's soccer questions back to the coach so as not to create confusion or conflict.
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players (on both teams), coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other event.
6. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
7. I will respect all officials and coaches authority during games and training sessions and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches on the field. I will avoid acting in the 'heat of the moment' and will take time to consider my thoughts. I will not discuss my concerns or express disapproval about the coach, officials, teammates or opponents with my child or other players or family members of the team. Any issues that cannot be resolved directly with the coach will be brought to the attention of the technical director.
8. I will explain to my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will explain to my child to treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will explain to my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will not ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.

12. I will cheer at all games regardless of the outcome. I will be mindful of a “lopsided” game where cheering our own “winning” team might be misunderstood.
13. I understand that skill development is more important than winning games. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
14. I understand that the club, league and tournament directors can, and will if necessary, impose limitations or suspend our individual privilege to watch our child play should I (or my guests) repeatedly behave in a manner that is deemed to be disruptive, rude, offensive or otherwise detrimental to the development and enjoyment of those participating or spectating. I understand that repeated problems may lead to the dismissal of my child from the club.

Acknowledgement

I have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by and support this Kansas Rush Soccer Club Parent’s Code of Conduct which will be kept on file in the club office for the duration of the playing year.

Parent’s name(s): _____

Parent’s signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent’s signature: _____ Date: _____

Team name: _____