

Harrison Soccer Club Code of Conduct

June 2 2020

General

The Harrison Youth Soccer Club (hereafter referred to as "Club"), is a private youth soccer organization committed to the growth of soccer as a sport and the health and well being of youth engaged in the sport of soccer in Harrison Township.

As a private organization, the Club sponsors youth soccer programs for children preschool through high school. All youth athletes and their parents, when registered in accordance with Club guidelines, are welcome to participate in club-sponsored activities including training sessions, coach-led practice sessions, scrimmages, games, tournaments, and other Club functions/events.

Affiliation

The Club is a private organization not affiliated with Harrison Township or the Township Recreation Committee. As such, it is within the jurisdiction of the Club executive board to set aside standards of behavior and rules of operation consistent with its mission (noted in paragraph 1) and in keeping with a high standard of integrity for all athletes, their parents, and our coaches.

Standards of Behavior

The following standards are to be exercised by parents, athletes, and coaches actively participating in all youth soccer programs within the Club jurisdiction. It is important that all athletes, parents, and coaches realize we are one club, with several club teams at various levels, therefore, we are all representatives of the same Club.

Enforcement

The Club executive board will not tolerate any behavior which does not ensure a safe, educational and constructive sports environment for each and every athlete. Overly aggressive or injurious behavior by an athlete towards another which is inconsistent with the rules and spirit of the game will not be tolerated. The behavior of parents and/or coaches, who advocate or support such behavior, will also not be tolerated. Athletes, parents or coaches who violate any of the standards set forth below are subject to immediate dismissal from the Club without any refund of registration fees or any other costs incurred.

A. Parents- It is the expectation of the club, that parents and guardians of all Club players, will conduct themselves in a manner that supports the mission of the club. As a spectator, they shall demonstrate behavior that is of the highest standards while at training/practice sessions, scrimmages, games, tournaments or any other Club-related events/ functions.

- I. Shall learn and abide by all rules and policies of the Club.
- II. Shall be a positive influence and a role model for the players of the Club and opposing teams.
 - a. Shall not use foul language or obscene gestures at any related soccer activity/function.
 - b. Shall avoid comments and gestures that express disagreement with referee decisions.
 - c. Shall not consume alcoholic beverages at William Wilt Soccer Complex or an opposing team's field.
- III. Shall place the emotional and physical well-being of all children first at all times, recognizing that our goal is always to increase our youth's understanding and likability of the game.
- IV. Shall insist that a safe and healthy environment is provided for all players.
- V. Shall endeavor to impress upon their children the importance of fair play.
- VI. Shall encourage their children to be knowledgeable of soccer rules and regulations, as well as the custom of sportsmanship inherent in the game; encourage good sportsmanship by being respectful to all players, coaches, officials and opposing players, coaches and teams.
- VII. Shall refrain from negative comments regarding athletes or coaches, before, during or after any training/ practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.
- VIII. Shall never physically touch or verbally intimidate an athlete, coach, Club official, or referee before, during or after any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.
- IX. Shall strongly discourage overly aggressive behavior (inconsistent with the rules and spirit of the game) by any athlete towards another athlete during play.
- X. Shall instruct the athletes to show compassion for and interest in the well-being of injured Club players regardless of whether they are on their Club team or another opposing Club team.
- XI. Shall support coaches, trainers, and officials who are working with my child to provide a positive experience for all.
 - a. Parents may not coach or direct any player from the sidelines which may interfere with the coaches' instruction during any training/practice sessions, scrimmages or games.

- b. Parents will communicate any problems or concerns to the coach at the appropriate time (recommended 24 hour cool off period) away from the location and players.

As a parent/guardian of a player for the Club, I hereby pledge to provide support, care and encouragement for my child and promise to uphold the Code of Conduct: Parents or Guardians registering their players with Harrison Soccer Club agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct, and understand that failure to uphold any statements above may include disciplinary actions, including being barred from attending youth soccer events sponsored by the Club. Disciplinary actions are at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

B. Athletes

- I. Shall abide by all rules and polices of the Club.
- II. Shall remember the importance of fair play and respect the authority of the referee's decisions even if they don't agree with them.
- III. Shall treat all athletes, parents, trainers, and coaches in the Club with respect and dignity.
- IV. Shall take an interest in learning the laws of the game, abide by these laws, and engage in fair play.
- V. Shall be respectful of all coaches, parents and Club officials during any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.
- VI. Shall never knowingly or willfully physically injure or verbally intimidate another athlete, coach, trainer, Club official, or referee before, during, or after any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.
- VII. Shall always be in control of their behavior and never act in an overly aggressive manner towards another athlete (inconsistent with the rules and spirit of the game) during play, nor will they retaliate if they believe they have been wronged.
- VIII. Shall demonstrate good will and display compassion for injured players from their club as well as opposing clubs.

IX. Shall bring any on-field issues to the attention of their respective coach to ensure appropriate action will be taken.

Failure to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines may result in disciplinary action by the club that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Warning
- Probation
- Game suspension
- Season suspension

C. Coaches

I. Shall be familiar with and abide by all rules and policies of the Club;

II. Shall at all times be a positive influence and role model for the athletes and parents while they are engaged in any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event. Recognizing that as the coach, it is also my responsibility to ensure the parents on the sideline are also treating each athlete, opposing coach, opposing player, official, parent and program coordinator with respect and dignity.

III. Shall take an active interest in the performance, safety, and well-being of all athletes in the Club, not just those assigned to them, and inspire a similar attitude among his/her players.

IV. Shall be knowledgeable of the rules of play, remain current with appropriate coaching and training skill areas that are age and developmentally relevant, in an effort to support the importance of fair play among all athletes.

V. Shall do my best as a youth sports coach to organize practices that create a positive and challenging athlete-centered learning environment.

VI. Shall use coaching techniques appropriate for each individual and emphasize the importance of team play.

VII. Shall teach the athletes to be knowledgeable of soccer rules and regulations, as well as the custom of sportsmanship inherent in the game, recognizing that all participants are entitled to an equal opportunity to strive for success and will be treated with respect and dignity.

VIII. Shall support all Club officials during any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.

IX. Shall refrain from negative comments regarding athletes, parents or other coaches, before, during or after any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event; treating each athlete, opposing coach, opposing player, official, parent and program coordinator with respect and dignity.

X. Shall never physically touch or verbally intimidate an athlete, another coach, trainer, referee Club official or parent before, during or after any training, practice session, scrimmage, game, tournament, or any other Club function or youth soccer event.

XI. Shall take any on-field problems with the play or behavior of an athlete(s) from another club team directly to the coach of the respective athlete(s).

XII. Shall not tolerate overly aggressive behavior (inconsistent with the rules and spirit of the game) by any athlete towards another athlete during play.

XIII. Shall temporarily stop play whenever any such aggressive behavior is exhibited, attempt to correct the aggressive behavior and be empowered to terminate play if required; placing the emotional and physical well-being of all players ahead of a personal desire to win.

XIV. Shall instruct the athletes to show compassion for and interest in the well-being of injured Club players regardless of whether they are on their Club team or another opposing Club team.

XV. Shall elevate unresolved issues in a spirit of cooperation directly to the Club's President and respective travel or recreation coordinator for resolution.

XVI. Shall abide by the rules and regulations of the US Soccer, US Youth Soccer, and its affiliated organizations, i.e. South Jersey Soccer Leagues.

Compliance with this code is a requirement of coaching. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action which could include but is not limited to:

- Warning
- Probation
- Suspension
- Revocation of your privilege to coach for Harrison Soccer Club