



Coach's Code of Conduct

1. Consider it a privilege to coach your children.
2. Consider it an obligation to be an example while developing character, honesty, integrity and respect in your children.
3. Use positive coaching methods to make the experience enjoyable, increase self-esteem, and foster a love and appreciation for the sport.
4. Strive to provide a challenging, safe, enjoyable and successful experience for the athletes by maintaining a sports environment that is physically and emotionally safe.
5. Always keep the **best interest and well being of the children** as the highest priority.
6. In both victory and defeat, the behavior of the coach shall model **grace, dignity and composure**.
7. Stress **fair play and good sportsmanship** whether winning or losing. During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
8. During the game, you are also responsible for the **conduct of the parents** of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting. Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them (and you may need to be forceful and direct) from yelling at the players and the referee.
9. Direct comments or criticisms relative to the performance, not the athlete.
10. At no time will a coach argue, abuse, threaten or demean any child, referee, other coach, parent, spectator or official.
11. Soccer is the players' game. The paramount concern of coaches is the holistic development, welfare, enjoyment and safety of their players.
12. Always remember, it's not about winning but developing mature and well-adjusted children.
13. Make it fun — if it's not fun, re-evaluate how you are teaching.
14. Don't over coach — the children learn through playing.
15. Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
16. After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.
17. Remember, attitude is learned, both positive and negative.

Coach Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed: _____