



Mason Dixon Soccer League

CODE OF CONDUCT & GUIDELINES

Youth sports programs provide an enjoyable learning environment for the physical, social and personal development of young people. The likelihood that youngsters will realize positive sports values is enhanced when adults actively participate in these activities, as coaches and parents, and emphasize positive sports values and behaviors. ***This code of conduct is intended as MINIMAL level of accepted behavior before, during, and after all practices and games.***

THE COACH:

- ◆ Treats players, parents and opponents with respect.
- ◆ Teaches and inspires soccer players to love the game and to compete fairly.
- ◆ Demonstrates, by example, the type of person he/she wants the players to be.
- ◆ Demonstrates self-control and commands discipline at all times.
- ◆ Respects the interpretation of rules and of judgment of the officials.
- ◆ Realizes that as a coach he/she is a teacher and therefore not only understands the game, but also proper soccer behavior at all times.
- ◆ Encourages feedback from parents and listens, fairly to comments and concerns.
- ◆ Strives to learn more about the game and is knowledgeable of rules.
- ◆ Approaches each player as an individual.
- ◆ Encourages risk taking and growth.
- ◆ Looks for positives from each player in each game.
- ◆ Remembers not to take themselves, or the game, too seriously

THE PLAYER

- ◆ Respects their coaches and their teammates.
- ◆ Comes to practices and games ready to play hard and improve skills.
- ◆ Treats opponents with respect.
- ◆ Plays hard and within the rules of the game of soccer.
- ◆ Demonstrates self control.
- ◆ Respects officials and accepts their decisions without gestures, backtalk or argument.
- ◆ Wins without boasting.
- ◆ Loses without excuses.
- ◆ Never quits.
- ◆ Demonstrates good sportsmanship.
- ◆ Encourages team mates and places team effort above personal accomplishments.
- ◆ Remembers that it is a privilege to represent his/her soccer league and community.



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THE PARENTS

- ◆ Encourages player by cheering loudly, positively and respectfully.
- ◆ Demonstrates self control at all times.
- ◆ Demonstrates, by example, the type of person they want their child do be.
- ◆ Emphasizes the importance of good play and effort
- ◆ Allows the coaches to coach and does not instruct players from the sidelines
- ◆ Respects the judgment of the referee, and withholds negative comments while attending games.
- ◆ Supports the coach and discusses concerns in a positive, non-threatening way
- ◆ De-emphasizes the pressure to win.
- ◆ Focus on mastering good soccer skills and game strategies
- ◆ Understands that youth soccer players are not perfect. A soccer game is full of mistakes and the team that makes fewer mistakes general win.
- ◆ Control negative emotions and think positive
- ◆ Remembers not to take themselves, or the game, too seriously.

Repeated failure to abide by this code may result in the following:

Coaches: Suspension from coaching for one game.
 Suspension from coaching for the remainder of season.
 Permanent expulsion from the program.

Coach's children will be allowed to continue to participate in the program.

Players: Suspension from playing for one game.
 Suspension from playing for the remainder of the season (registration fee is forfeit).

Player discipline will be discussed with coach (es), league president, and parents, if necessary.

Parents: Prohibited from watching game(s) from sidelines
 Prohibited from attending game(s)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE READ THE MDSL CODE OF CONDUCT AND WILL ACT ACCORDINGLY DURING ALL GAMES AND PRACTICES

Player: _____-

ALL PARENTS/STEP PARENTS/LEGAL GUADIANS:
