

FAIRFIELD Area SAY

COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

The position of coach or leader of any youth group is an important and serious responsibility. All the children look up to the coach and respect his/her position. Her/his behavior is constantly under observation by them and they will strive to imitate his/her actions. The coach's opinion and behavior during the game will carry more weight than anyone else, even parents.

The following **CODE OF ETHICS AND BEHAVIOR** is offered here to exemplify the ideal SAY coach. A responsible coach in the Fairfield SAY Area will conduct themselves according to the following guidelines. A good youth soccer coach should:

1. Know the laws of the game and teach them to your players. Read the rulebook and attempt to attend a clinic to enhance your knowledge of the game.
2. Abide by the laws of the game and the Soccer Association for Youth rules.
3. Treat the referees with respect, no matter what the call.
4. Exhibit excellent conduct at both practices and games. Team discipline reflects the coach's attitude 100%. The coach is responsible for the conduct of the players when they are together as a team.
5. Coach clean, skillful, honest and sportsman-like soccer by stressing playing hard to win over winning itself.
6. Stress good sportsmanship.
7. Help maintain a climate of enjoyment among spectators by discouraging negative remarks and/or harassment of players, referees or other spectators.
8. Work at team morale as hard as soccer skills and tactics. Be a "fun leader". Stress individual skill development more than tactics. Minimize lectures; maximize demonstrations. Stress having fun.
9. In dealing with team members, maximize praise and minimize criticism. Make corrections slowly and calmly in a manner tailored to the individual.
10. Do not use profanity or vulgar language. Remember you are helping to mold the character of your players.
11. Coach talented and non-talented players with equal vigor. Allow all players more than their required minimum playing time.
12. Minimize coaching from the sidelines during games. Screaming during the game accomplishes nothing.
13. Pre-plan all practice sessions in detail to be interesting, fast paced and involve all team members as much as possible (minimize standing around).
14. Welcome feedback from players and parents alike concerning potential problems and ways to improve.