



## Coaching Principles and Grassroots Soccer Philosophy

Thank-you for becoming a coach for HYS! This rewarding and privileged role requires you to embody specific traits and behaviors for success while adhering to our core philosophies.

1. **Prioritize Children's Needs and Inclusivity:** Understand the developmental stages of youth to create a supportive environment where all players, regardless of background or skill level, can learn, participate actively, and cultivate a love for soccer.
2. **Exhibit High Standards and Promote Fair Play:** Be a role model by demonstrating fairness, respect, and ethical behavior towards players, parents, and the community both on and off the field. Encourage a culture of dignity and sportsmanship.
3. **Emphasize Readiness Factors and Personal Development:** Recognize the importance of maturation, learning capabilities, and internal motivation for participation in the sport. Cater to the varying needs of children while supporting their skill development and teamwork.
4. **Communicate Effectively and Maintain a Positive Temperament:** Use clear verbal and nonverbal communication to engage with players and guide them patiently through observation, employing a calm voice instead of a whistle.
5. **Motivate Positively and Foster Enjoyment:** Build self-confidence and passion for the game through positive reinforcement. Celebrate efforts, prioritize fun, and keep the atmosphere light-hearted to encourage enjoyment over competition.
6. **Demonstrate Leadership and Stay Informed:** Be organized and enforce discipline while focusing on behavior improvement. Keep up with coaching practices, rules, and strategies to enhance your effectiveness as a coach.
7. **Build Unity and Support Team Growth:** Encourage camaraderie and support among players, reinforcing that soccer is a collective effort. Focus on communication and understanding the spirit of the game over merely winning.

As a representative of HYS, you play a critical role in nurturing not only soccer skills but also the character and values of young players at all times. Your commitment to these principles and philosophies is essential to their growth in the sport and as individuals, and any deviation will result in a review of your coaching role. Together, let's instill a love for soccer rooted in fair play, respect, unity, and joy.