



## **Spectators' Code of Ethics**

Approved June 2000

SPECTATORS are an important part of soccer. They, by their actions (behavior), can make it either an exciting event OR can create a considerable amount of pain and discomfort for coaches, players, and game officials as well as other spectators.

The COACHES' and PLAYERS' code of ethics notes several violations. Among these are unlawfully entering the field, THREATENING or AGGRESSIVE MANNER OR ACTIONS, HARASSMENT (of players, coaches, officials, etc.) and ABUSIVE or FOUL language as well as the appearance of being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol.

SPECTATORS are subject to these same behavior violations. In the event a game official has determined that a SPECTATOR'S conduct is in violation of any of the above, the coaches will be advised and be required to immediately deal with the matter. The official will either state a warning or request that the SPECTATORS LEAVE THE FIELD AREA.

Any time SPECTATORS comes under penalty to the point that they are required to leave the field area, the referee can suspend play until that has been accomplished. In the event that the SPECTATOR will not leave the field, as required, the referee may suspend the game.

All such occurrences, where the SPECTATOR has been required to leave the field, MUST be reported to the Disciplinary Committee before 8:00 p.m. that same day.