

# Mission Statement, Code of Conduct and Rules of Discipline

## Mission Statement:



Harmar Soccer Club's (HSC) mission is to provide soccer players a supportive environment to train and play in a fun, positive and educational atmosphere, enhancing our players' character and desire for the game. We strive to create an opportunity for players to work together as a team toward common goals. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for authority figures (board members, coaches, and referees). Our focus is on developing good character through the sport of soccer.

# **Mission Statement, Code of Conduct and Rules of Discipline**

## **HSC Code of Conduct:**

HSC is a member club of PA West Soccer Association and as such, must abide by the Youth Division Playing Rules of the governing body. All HSC players, parents, coaches, board members, and spectators must also abide by the Youth Division Playing Rules, and are subject to disciplinary action by PA West Soccer Association in addition to disciplinary action taken by HSC pursuant to its Code of Conduct.

HSC will not tolerate intentional or willful failure to follow HSC rules or directives. Also, HSC will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, or players from any parent, player, or spectator. In order to ensure that the principles of sportsmanship, fair play, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators occur during all events sponsored by HSC, the following Code of Conduct has been established to protect the integrity of our program and emphasize the values of our organization.

This Code of Conduct as set forth below, is not intended to limit the scope or application of any laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any ordinances of Harmar Township Municipality, to the extent such laws, rules or ordinances are applicable.

As a player, parent/guardian, coach, board member, and spectator in the HSC, I understand that I am expected to follow the HSC Code of Conduct at all times:

- I will play soccer because I want to, not because others want me to.
- I will read, understand and abide by all PA West soccer rules and The HSC Code of Conduct.
- I will make every effort to attend all games and practices and will notify my coach if I cannot attend. Practices are as important as games. Players who simply don't show up for practice and/or games are not fulfilling their obligation to their team.
- I will exhibit good sportsmanship and treat my coaches, other players, referees, and spectators of both teams with respect at all times, regardless of race, gender, national origin, creed, or abilities; I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I understand that irresponsible, inappropriate or disrespectful behavior (including bullying, arguing, using profanity, talking "trash", or taunting others) in any club facility before, during or after a game or practice is unacceptable, and will not be tolerated.
- I will not undermine, in work or deed, the authority of the coaches or HSC as an organization.
- I will never treat a referee with disrespect at the field before, during or after a game.
- As a parent and/or spectator, I will let the coaches coach and not engage in "coaching" from the sidelines, as this can be confusing for players on the field.
- As a parent and/or spectator, I will not criticize players, coaches, team administrators or game officials during game play, nor will I try to influence the makeup of the team at any time.
- As a parent and/or spectator, I will remain behind the designated spectator sideline during a game. Spectators are not allowed on the team sidelines, on the field or behind the goal line during a game, except with approval from the coach or referee (i.e. to tend to a child injury).
- As a parent and/or spectator, if a negative situation occurs during a HSC game, practice, or event, I will reserve comments to the coach or board until the game/practice is over unless the situation involves the immediate health or safety of a child.

# Mission Statement, Code of Conduct and Rules of Discipline

## Rules of Discipline:

Anyone who violates the HSC Code of Conduct while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in a HSC event will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following, in any order or combination.

- Verbal warning issued by HSC board
- Written warning issued by HSC board
- Game or multi-game suspension
- Season or multi-season suspension
- Expulsion from HSC

HSC relies upon the support of volunteers and in particular, volunteer coaches. Any negative behavior against coaches or other unpaid volunteers will result in immediate action. If a parent has any issues with a coach, volunteer or HSC board member, please make the time to see that individual personally before resorting to e-mails or phone calls to express your dissatisfaction. If you cannot get your issue resolved, please take it up with the HSC board for resolution.

All suspensions and expulsions will be made at the HSC board level. Suspensions and Expulsions are not limited to the following. Any adult that is subject to an immediate ejection from a HSC event issued by authorized officials of PA West or HSC and fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove that individual. Any adult that commits a second similar offense will be banned from HSC events for the remainder of that season. Any adult who physically assaults a player, referee, coach, or HSC board member will be banned from HSC for one year from the date of the offense. After one year, the adult may apply for re-instatement. If the adult commits a second offense, he or she will be permanently banned from all HSC events. The term physical assault includes, but is not limited to; hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.

## Acknowledgement:

I have reviewed, understand, and will follow the HSC Code of Conduct.

Player's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Player's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_