

# TWIN COUNTY SOCCER ASSOCIATION

## Code of Conduct

**APPLICABILITY:** The Twin County Soccer Association (TCSA) policy applies to all administrators, coaches, parents, and players that participate within TCSA.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** Parents and players registering in the Twin County Soccer Association are required to complete and sign the Code of Conduct form. There are no exceptions to this requirement. Specific circumstances and conditions not addressed in this policy will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the TCSA Executive Board.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **1. TCSA Executive Board**

- a. The Executive Board will consider all written questions, exceptions and challenges to this policy within ten (10) business days of receipt of the question by the TCSA Recording Secretary or at the next regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting. A quorum of Board members is required to make final judgments.
- b. The Board will identify two (2) Board members to investigate all reports and claims of violations of the Code of Conduct. The designated Board members will report to the entire Board at the regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting if factors dictate
- c. The Board will consider the observations, opinions, and views of all parties involved in the violation as well as those that may have witnessed the event.
- d. The Board will meet, at the request of the individual(s) involved to reconsider an initial decision. However, any reconsideration will be made only in view of new information. It is not the Board's intent to go over the same facts and information used when it rendered its initial decision. The Board will set a special meeting to hear facts associated with a request to reconsider.
- e. The Executive Board will apply the penalties (see Penalties Associated with Violations of the Code below) as defined in this policy in cases involving violations of the code of conduct.
- f. If an individual league or NJ Youth Soccer (NJYS) should determine that a violation of its code of conduct has taken place and this involves one or more individuals associated with TCSA the TCSA Executive Board may assign penalties to those individuals over and above those assigned by that league or NJYS.

- g. Rulings of a majority of the TCSA Executive Board are final.

## ***2. Coaches, Players, Parents, and Guardians***

- a. Must adhere to the Code of Conduct. The focus must always be on sportsmanship, fair play and the intent to develop our children into respectful young adults.
- b. May request an opportunity to meet with the Executive Board to present information prior to a Board decision or to request reconsideration after the Board has made a decision.

### **PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT:**

The penalty for the first offense may include, but not be limited to, ejection from the current league game and probation for five (5) league games for parents, players, and guardians. If the individual involved is a coach, he/she must appear before the TCSA Executive Board to explain his/her actions before he/she will be permitted to coach in another game.

The penalty for a second offense may include, but not be limited to, ejection from the current league game, a two (2) league game suspension and probation for the remainder of that season. If the individual involved is a parent, and/or guardian, their child will also be suspended for two (2) league games. If the individual involved is a coach, he/she is suspended for the remainder of the season after this second offense.

The penalty for a third offense may include, but not be limited to, ejection from the current league game and a ten (10) league game suspension for the individual(s) involved. If the individual involved is a parent, and/or guardian, their child will also be suspended for five (5) league games. Any unfulfilled suspension will be carried over to the next scheduled league season.

Any individual (coaches, players, parents or guardians) committing an act of violence (as defined by criminal code) will be suspended immediately, and at the first offense. This applies to any acts of violence committed within the context of a game and/or practice or preceding and following a game and/or practice. Additionally, the Twin County Soccer Association will fully support local police departments in any investigations and prosecutions of individuals committing acts of violence. **This strong position is reflective of the Twin County Soccer Association's zero tolerance for acts of violence.**

***This policy will remain in place until modified, replaced or eliminated by the Twin County Soccer Association Executive Board.***