



Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaching a team of young athletes is a high privilege that carries with it great responsibility. A coach should always demonstrate the highest ethical character and should serve as a role model for the players on his or her team. A coach must always remember the influence that he or she has over young athletes. The game is for the players.

(The term "Coach" shall include, but is not limited to Head Coach, Assistant Coach(s), Manager/Trainer and/or Team Representative.)

This Code of Coaching Conduct has been developed to clarify and define basic expectations of professional, ethical, and moral behavior from coaches affiliated with the Sparta Soccer Club (SSC).

- Teach and practice good sportsmanship and fair play by personally demonstrating commitment to these principals.
- Know the official Laws of the Game of soccer and the rules of Sparta Soccer Club and the league, and abide by them.
- Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the laws of the game the SSC and the league.
- Know that during the game, you are not to argue with or question the referee. If you have an issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently at half or after the game.
 - a) If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion in your game report to the league. Your report will be taken seriously if presented objectively, professionally and concisely.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team before, during, and after the game.
- Know that you are responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players before, during and after your match.
- Remember that soccer is a game, and treat players and coaches on other teams as opponents, not enemies.
- Be respectful of all officials; League, Association, and Sparta Soccer Club
- The following will not be tolerated of our coaches by the SSC;
 - a) Obscene, profane, abusive language.
 - b) Obscene gestures.
 - c) Use of alcohol or illegal drugs.
 - d) Persisting in unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - e) Poaching of players (as per MCYSA/NJYS definition)
 - f) Insubordination or disrespectful actions to League, Association or SSC officials or coaches or their operating rules and policies or the spirit of the rules and policies.
 - g) Attempting to injure anyone.

SSC Recommended Coaching Best Practices

- Always remember, it's not about winning but developing mature and well-adjusted children.
- Make it fun — if it's not fun, re-evaluate how you are teaching.
- Don't over coach — the children learn through playing.
- Provide positive reinforcement and build esteem — every practice, every game.
- Remember, attitude is learned, both positive and negative.

I understand, that a failure to conform to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a soccer event I could be subject to disciplinary action and or fines, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Written warning.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from the youth sporting event.
4. Monetary Fines*
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension.
6. Or other disciplinary action(s) as determined by the board.

** This is in addition to any disciplinary measures or fines levied by MCYSA, NJYS or any other league. Fine will be the sole responsibility of the offender.*

Print Name _____ **DATE:** _____

Coach's Signature _____

Any issues, complaints or problems should be directed to your coach, SSC Director of coaches, or League Contact for action, resolution or consideration. Don't take matters into your own hands!