



Northeast Freedom Youth Soccer League (NEFYSL) Coach Code of Conduct

Coaches have the most important role in youth soccer. Coaches are role models for not only their team members, but for all participants involved in soccer. As a NEFYSL Coach, I agree to abide by the following:

- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of differences in emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing environment for my players.
- I will insure that my players' experience in practices and games is one of fun and enjoyment and improvement in skills. I understand that the top three reasons kids play sports are:
a) to have fun, b) to make new friends, and c) to learn new skills.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for the children and not the adults.
- I will guarantee all field players will play roughly equal amounts as all other field players in every scheduled game. The guarantee may be abridged for disciplinary reasons that have been reviewed and approved in advance by my Club Board of Directors, or NEFYSL Board of Directors.
- I will be knowledgeable of the Laws of the Game and NEFYSL rules and regulations, and teach these rules to all players on my team.
- I will encourage my team members to play by the rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, fans and officials.
- I will meet and greet officials and opponent coaches to set the proper tone of the game.
- I will ***NOT*** abuse referees. Referee abuse includes but is not limited to shouting dissent over a call from the sidelines, criticizing the referee's performance in front of players, debate over a call or the referee's performance after the game has finished, or other acts of disrespect toward the referee or game officials.
- I understand that as a coach, I am responsible for not only my own behavior but also the behavior of my team members, their parents, and fans at NEFYSL games.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and abusive language and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I understand that (upon review) my Club, and/or NEFYSL, can, and will, if necessary, suspend my coaching privilege should I behave in a manner that is contrary to this Code of Conduct.