



NORTHEAST FREEDOM YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Children's sports are supposed to be fun – for the children. Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sports activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults.

I therefore agree:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
3. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
4. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
5. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
6. I will teach my children to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
7. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
8. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
9. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard.
10. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing in competition.
11. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.

12. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
13. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
14. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization.
2. Written warning
3. Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the NEFYSL.
4. Game forfeit through the official or coach
5. Parental season suspension