

MAYSA Code of Ethics & Conduct

The Madison Area Youth Soccer Association (MAYSA) Code of Ethics & Conduct is intended to help all stakeholders become the best they can be. MAYSA stakeholders include players, teams, parents, coaches, clubs and administrators. All are challenged to not only meet a high standard of sportsmanship, Fair Play and respect for the game but to set a high standard regardless of the actions or behavior of others.

All participants are encouraged to be familiar with the FIFA Laws of the Game and any US Youth Soccer, Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association or MAYSA adaptations. In addition, all participants are expected to show the utmost respect to referees at all times and abide by MAYSA's No Tolerance Policy for Referee Abuse (see Section 8 of Policies & Procedures). Participants need not agree with the decisions of referees but are fully expected to accept and abide by the decisions. No individual may confront a game official at halftime, during the game or post game for any reason other than to retrieve player pass cards, shake hands or say "thank you".

Players & Teams

1. Shall be respectful to opponents, game officials, spectators and the field of play itself before, during and after every training or match.
2. Shall never use profane language, taunt opponents or attempt to injure an opponent in any manner.
3. Shall embrace the Spirit of the Game and the joy of competition over winning and losing.
4. Shall understand that the post-game handshake is an important symbol of sportsmanship & appreciation for the opponent and that it is mandatory.

Coaches

1. All coaches and assistant coaches are required to have, and be capable of presenting to the game official, a Coach Pass issued by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association.
2. Must have a strong understanding of the FIFA Laws of the Game and any adaptations.
3. Shall emphasize the importance of participation, value of competition and player development over winning & losing.
4. Shall be familiar with the following policies: Club Pass, use of Guest Players, and MAYSA's No-Recruitment Policy, as well as the Concussion Information provided on the player registration form and MAYSA website.
5. Are responsible for the actions of their players and spectators before, during and after a match. Coaches are expected to consistently ensure a safe and supportive environment for players on both teams and referees.
6. Shall be aware that only the team's coach is permitted to provide feedback regarding referee performance. Referee feedback may be provided in a succinct and constructive manner via the masru.org website on the feedback form provided. Links are also available at maysa.org.

Parents & Spectators

1. Are encouraged to cheer for sportsmanship and good plays, no matter who makes them.
2. Will abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcohol in the areas immediately surrounding the field of play, and will respect the rules of the practice and game venues generally.
3. Will respect the team's designated coach and minimize confusion among players by abstaining from coaching from the sideline.
4. Will interact in a cooperative and positive manner with the parents & spectators from the opposing team.

Club Administrators, Directors and Other Staff

1. Will work cooperatively with MAYSA leadership and staff with respect to the registration of players, placement of teams, scheduling and other administrative duties.
2. Will actively help MAYSA communicate its goals & policies and meet deadlines.
3. Will promote the growth of soccer throughout MAYSA, irrespective of club affiliation.

Any players, coaches, parents or administrators who violate the MAYSA Code of Ethics & Conduct or its intent may be subject to any or all of the following: a formal/written warning, suspensions ranging from a single game to a lifetime ban or other sanctions at the discretion of MAYSA Competitive Committee.

MAYSA reserves the right to apply the "Common Sense Rule" to any actions by players, coaches, parents & spectators and club administrators which may not be specifically addressed by the Code of Ethics & Conduct.

The MAYSA Board of Directors and Staff will also be expected to hold themselves accountable to the MAYSA Code of Ethics & Conduct.