

JKYSC Code of Conduct
Jefferson Kiwanis Youth Soccer Association
Code of Conduct for Coaches, Players & Parents

INTRODUCTION

The Jefferson Kiwanis Youth Soccer Club (JKYSC) is a community organization sponsoring youth soccer emphasizing fun, fair play and sportsmanship. Part of our mission is to enhance every participant's enjoyment of their soccer experience. To better achieve this goal, we are outlining a Code of Conduct for all of the parents, players and coaches of JKYSC.

The Code of Conduct is a written contract between the parents, players, referees, administrators and coaches (herein referred to as participants) and JKYSC to abide by the rules and regulations of the game as well as maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. This contract is more than just a piece of paper; it is the essence of our goals and objectives and thus, adherence to it is of primary importance.

All who wish to participate with activities sanctioned by JKYSC, and their parents are required to agree and sign this Code of Conduct.

MAINTAINING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Participants are expected to show a positive and respectful attitude for everyone involved. Criticism and disrespect for officials, opponents, coaches or fans undermines the purpose of sport and brings unnecessary stresses beyond competition. It contributes to behavior not in keeping with the spirit of the game.

SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE

Each person associated with the JKYSC is accountable for his/her own behavior at all times around the field of play. Participants and other adults should remember that it is up to you to set good examples and to not tolerate those who do not. JKYSC will not tolerate conduct which is detrimental to the sport, the participant or the community. Such conduct includes: vulgarity by coaches, players or parents; harassment or belittling of officials, coaches or players; physical violence or the threat of physical violence toward anyone before, during or after a match; verbal abuse directed toward anyone before, during or after a match; and the taunting of opposing players, coaches and parents. We require the utmost self-restraint on the part of players and especially adults. In addition, violent play, rowdy behavior, verbal abuse, assault or similar behavior by any team sponsored by JKYSC will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with the JKYSC, Ohio Soccer Association and USSF rules and regulations. Sometimes, JKYSC travel teams participate in events outside of the area. Players, coaches and parents behavior at hotels, motels, restaurants and airports should be such that it does not discredit, dishonor or create a negative impressions of the JKYSC.

A GOOD RELATIONSHIP

The Officials

On a soccer field, the referee is the symbol of authority and often the target of criticism. The referee's job is a difficult one and all referees are human and do make mistakes. Anytime you feel your team is being treated unfairly or you have an unqualified referee, talk to your coach after the game. Coaches are asked to tell the Director of Referees about problems that occur with officials.

In accordance with FIFA laws, verbal abuse towards referees could result in a red card and ejection for the player, coach or parent. Referees have the authority to suspend play if a coach does not control his players and parents (supporters).

The Coach

The primary responsibility of the coach is to coach and teach children the game of soccer. However, he/she is also responsible for the team's supporters – parents should not expect coaches to police the sidelines. Positive support for the team and coaches is encouraged. JKYSC prides itself on the excellent sportsmanship of its teams and parents.

The Opponents

Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of opposing players, coaches and fans at all times. Any action which can be deemed disrespectful will be punished under the

guidelines of the violations section of this Code of Conduct. Sportsmanship begins with respect. Without opponents to play, the positive competitive environment which can be a perfect classroom for the participant to learn the values of sport is completely undermined.

VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Currently, the JKYSO guidelines set a minimum standard of discipline that is expected of players, coaches and spectators. JKYSO, in an effort to be a leader in this very difficult area, will continue to set its own, tougher standards with respect to several key situations (i.e., ejections for fighting, dissent and/or verbal abuse). It is up to ALL of us – players, coaches, parents, referees and administrators – to ensure that these types of bad sportsmanship do not occur. The violations of this Code of Conduct and disciplinary action as listed below are automatic and are reported to the JKYSO executive committee through the submittal of an incident form. The Executive committee will follow By Laws article VIII 1 j(2) in considering the incident form.

A. Player Conduct

1. **Ejection** – A player receiving a red card will be ejected from the game immediately and will not be able to participate in his/her team's next match. Repeated offenders could face further sanctions as determined by the coach or an inquiry of the JKYSO.
2. **Ejection for Violent Conduct – Serious Foul Play and Foul or Abusive Language** – If a red card is issued to a JKYSO player for one of these reasons and, in the opinion of that player's coach is definitely warranted, the player can be suspended from participating in a second game. Currently JKYSO requires a player to sit out at least one scheduled game. The coach may decide to extend the number of games the player is suspended based on previous card history or on the action taken by the player that earned the card.
3. **Abuse** – Players who are abusive of coaches, other players (including teammates) or the referee may be banned from attending matches for one week (at least one game) if their coach so desires. Coaches may also recommend further sanctions at an inquiry of the JKYSO Board of Directors.

B. Parent/Spectator

1. Any parent or spectator who is ejected from the game by the referee will remove themselves from the sidelines and area immediately. He/she will be banned from attending games for at least one week (at least one game) and can be banned longer if so determined by an inquiry of the JKYSO Board of Directors.
2. Parents/Spectators who are abusive of coaches players or referees may also be banned from attending matches for one week (or at least one game) or longer if so determined by an inquiry of the JKYSO.

C. Coach Conduct

1. Any coach ejected from a game must remove themselves from the sideline immediately and cannot participate in their teams next and the following match.
2. Coaches who are abusive of other coaches, players or referees may be banned from attending matches for one week (at least one game) or longer if so determined by an inquiry of the JKYSO Board of Directors.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of sport is to provide a competitive, learning environment to teach all participants the values of teamwork, cooperation and sportsmanship. Soccer is just one sport which offers this type of environment for our children. We still can be competitive without crossing the line of decent behavior, keeping in mind that our children will follow our example. We should act accordingly.

I agree to abide by the rules and regulations stated herein and am bound to all decisions and impositions of these rules. It is with the spirit of cooperation, for the betterment of soccer and our family that we willingly abide by this contract.