

CODE OF CONDUCT

As a parent, you play a special role in contributing to the needs and development of youngsters.

Through your encouragement and good example, you can help assure that all the boys and girls learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. In AYSO, young people learn to work together, to sacrifice for the good of the team, to enjoy winning and deal appropriately with defeat - all while becoming physically fit and healthy. Best of all, they have fun.

Support Your Child

Supporting your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in their team is very important. Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory - that way your child will always be a winner despite the outcome of the game!

Always Be Positive

Parents serve as role models for their children. Become aware of this and work to be a positive role model. Applaud good plays by your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team.

Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports activities.

Remember: Your Child Wants To Have Fun

Remember that your child is the one playing soccer, not you. It's very important to let children establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose your own standards and goals on them.

Don't put too heavy a burden on your child to win games. Surveys reveal that 72% of children would rather play for a losing team than ride the bench for a winning team.

Children play for the fun of playing.

Reinforce Positive Behavior

Positive reinforcement is the best way to help your child achieve their goals and their natural fear of failure. Nobody likes to make mistakes. If your child does make one, remember it's all part of learning, so encourage your child's efforts and point out the good things your child accomplished.

Don't Be a Sideline Coach or Referee

Coaches and referees are usually parents just like you. They volunteer their time to help make your child's youth soccer experiences a positive one. They need your support too.

That means refraining from coaching or refereeing from the sidelines. As a volunteer organization, there's usually always an opportunity for you to take your interest in coaching or refereeing to the next level and become one yourself.

Parents Pledge:

1. I pledge to be on time or early when dropping off my child for a practice or game. I understand that it is embarrassing for my child to be late to a game or practice and that I am putting him/her at physical risk by not providing adequate time for warm up. I understand the importance of picking up my child on time for all games and

practices. This shows respect for the coach, who has other time commitments, and it tells my child that he or she is my top priority.

2. I understand that the top three reasons kids play sports are to have fun, make new friends and learn new skills. I understand that the game is for the kids, and that I will encourage my child to have fun and keep sport in its proper perspective. I understand that athletes do their best when they are emotionally healthy, so I will be positive and supportive.

3. I will redefine what it is to be a "Winner" in my conversations with my child. A Winner is someone who makes maximum effort, continues to learn and improve, and does not let mistakes, or fear of making mistakes, stop them. I understand that mistakes are an inevitable part of any game and that people learn from their mistakes. I understand that all children are born with different abilities and that the true measure is not how my child compares to others but how he/she is doing in comparison to his/her best self.

4. I understand the importance of setting a good example of sportsmanship to my child. No matter what others may do, I will show respect for all involved in the game including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans, and referees. I understand that officials, coaches, and players make mistakes. If the referee makes a "questionable" call, I will continue to respect the individual and be silent!

5. I understand that games can be exciting times for my child who is trying to deal with the fast-paced action of the game, respond to opponents, referees, teammates and listen to coaches. I will not add confusion by yelling out instructions. During the game, I will limit my comments to encouraging my child and other players for both teams.

6. I will not make negative comments about the game, coaches, referees or teammates in my child's presence. I understand that this plants a seed, which can negatively influence my child's motivation and overall experience.

I agree to honor the AYSO Parent Pledge in my words and actions.

Parent Pledge and CONDUCT POLICY AGREEMENT

Everyone on your team needs to sign the Conduct Policy Agreement. Please turn into the mailbox at your first game.

I have thoroughly read, understand, and agree to abide by the AYSO Region 254 Conduct Policy Code of Ethics and AYSO's Kids Zone Parent Pledge.

Team #: _____ **Team Name:** _____

Division: _____ **Girls / Boys (Circle One)**

1. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
2. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
3. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
4. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature/Date:
5. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
6. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
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12. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
13. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
14. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date:
15. Coach / Parent (Circle One) Print Name:	Signature / Date: