



Region 177 Code of Conduct

In order to provide an experience for our players that will make them want to come back the following year. The following are some guidelines that every coach within our Region must uphold. Included are expectations for parents and spectators as well as players. Please make an effort to read these guidelines so that your child's experience with AYSO will be a positive one. Parents are encouraged to read the following section regarding coaches' conduct so that you may know what you should expect from your coach this season and every season to follow.

Coaches

Always ensure the safety of your players, whether at practice, games or team outings. Make practice fun and interesting while challenging your players both mentally and physically. Whether you are a first time coach who knows nothing about the game or a seasoned veteran, take the time to learn as much as possible about the game as well as seek out new drills and practice Philosophies.

Soccer is a physically demanding sport that requires good conditioning. Get your players in shape. Challenge them at practice to increase their endurance. Soccer is also a physical game by nature. Players age 8 and older need to be encouraged to play a clean but tough physical game. Individual ball handling skills have been a focal point for many years and a main reason why our players cannot compete at the same skill level as club teams or even other regions in our area. Players must be able to pass accurately with both feet, dribble with both feet while keeping it close, shoot or kick accurately with some power, control or trap the ball with all parts of the body and play with creativity. All coaches are responsible for teaching their players all of these skills. Children need encouragement and praise in order to progress at anything they are doing. As a coach, you must not yell at your players for making a mistake but encourage them to try again. Only by knowing that it is safe to try and fail will they continue to try. Once the fear of failure is removed, your players will improve dramatically, their confidence will soar and their parents will be grateful. No parent likes a yelling coach unless you're yelling praise. "Positive Coaching" is one of AYSO's founding philosophies. Comments to officials will not be allowed during or after games. All referees are volunteers such as you and without them no games would take place. As a coach, it is your responsibility to set the

standard of conduct for your players and spectators to follow. Any infractions of any kind will involve board intervention.

Being an AYSO coach is not just about soccer. The AYSO creed is child development through soccer, not soccer development through children. Players must understand good sportsmanship, teamwork and commitment to a common goal. As a coach, it is your responsibility to instill all of these qualities in your **players as well as teach them to play a good** game of soccer.

Parents

Keep comments positive and encouraging. **Allow the coach to coach.** Teach **them that winning** or losing is not important but that playing hard and having fun is. We strongly encourage no comments be made to the referees or assistant referees at any time. Our referees are all volunteers and without them, no games would take place. Due to numerous past incidents of verbal as well as physical abuse on our referees, we must insist that you allow them to officiate without any such incidents. Volunteer to help with the team functions. Coaching in itself is a big job, however, there are many other duties involved. Help make your coach's job easier by getting involved.

Players

Respect your coaches, teammates and referees. Come to practice on time and ready to work. Support your teammates with words of encouragement and praise. Play hard but fair at all times. Be courteous to your opponents, their coach and the referee at all times. Most important of all... HAVE FUN