

For Referees

RULES OF CONDUCT & STANDARDS OF LEADERSHIP



Wheaton Park District Soccer Program

SAFETY | FUN | SPORTSMANSHIP | SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Everything you say and do should be consistent with the six core ethical values comprising good character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Trustworthiness (honesty, integrity, promise-keeping and loyalty)

- 1. Always act so as to encourage and justify trust. Look for opportunities to reinforce the meaning and importance of trustworthiness in players, coaches and parents.
- 2. Be honest and demand honesty. Do not engage in or permit dishonesty by lying, deception or omission.
- Teach and model the importance of integrity by doing the right thing and making the right call even when the cost is high. Admit your mistakes openly and honestly as a demonstration of integrity.
- 4. Keep commitments and impress on players and coaches the values of promise-keeping and reliability. If you are unable to keep a commitment, apologize to those who were depending on you.

Respect

- 1. Treat players, coaches and parents with respect, courtesy and consideration. Avoid and prevent others from practicing put-downs, insults, name-calling, yelling and other verbal or nonverbal conduct likely to offend, hurt or simply set a bad example.
- 2. Encourage and, where appropriate, require players and coaches to treat opponents, teammates and others with respect and courtesy. Promote politeness and use of "please", "thank you" and "excuse me".
- 3. Seek to control the conduct of the parents, spectators, coaches and players to prevent negative cheers, name-calling, insults, drinking or any other conduct inconsistent with a positive atmosphere of character development.
- 4. Correct and instruct players and coaches in constructive ways. Avoid demeaning or embarrassing criticisms.
- 5. Assure that the sports experience is one of fun and enjoyment. Correct and instruct players in constructive ways. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Tell players when they have done something well.
- 6. Don't demean, ridicule or embarrass players for mistakes or yell at a player or the team for any reason.



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- 7. Be on time. Remember players, coaches and parents are relying on you to start and end according to schedule.
- 8. Treat all players as individuals, appreciating their diversity in skills, gender, ethnicity and race. Never permit statements or acts of prejudice.
- 9. Listen to coaches and others who respectfully and in the appropriate setting want to discuss matters about rules, interpretation of rules and your control over the moral environment of the game. Respect the opinions of others and answer their questions without being defensive or arbitrary.

Responsibility

- 1. Always exercise and demand self-control. Do not lose your temper. Don't throw things, scream, or otherwise demonstrate uncontrolled anger. Do not permit players, coaches or spectators to demonstrate inappropriate anger.
- 2. Encourage players and coaches to win and lose with grace.
- 3. Accept responsibility for your choices of both action and inaction.

Fairness

- 1. Model and insist on fair play. Make sure all teams play honorably.
- 2. Model fair-mindedness by being open to ideas, suggestions and opinions of others.
- 3. Make all decisions fairly and treat all players with impartiality.

1. Strictly and consistently enforce all rules of the game.

Caring

1. Model kindness and compassion for others. Discourage selfishness.

Citizenship

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