



Santa Cruz City Youth Soccer Club Coach's Code of Conduct

The Santa Cruz City Youth Soccer Club (hereafter SCCYSC) strives to ensure that the youth soccer experience is a positive and enjoyable one for all the children and adults involved. Our goal is to create balance of play, equal opportunity between players, reasonable safety, fun, skill development and an atmosphere of fun sporting behavior. To ensure this, we expect all coaches to adhere to this Code of Conduct. All coaches operate at the discretion of the Santa Cruz City Youth Soccer Club and its Board of Directors, the Santa Cruz County Youth Soccer League and the California Youth Soccer Association.

As a recreational or advanced coach, you shall:

- Read, know and abide by the Rules of the Game of Soccer. All coaches should carefully read the CYSA Team Manual which contains CYSA rules and regulations as well as the rules of the game and helpful information about team and practice management and tournaments.
- Embrace the principles of the Positive Coaching Alliance (Honor the Game, Fill Emotional Tanks and Redefine Winner; www.positivecoach.org) and resist the "win-at-all-costs" mentality.
- Embrace a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free environment for your players and refrain from their use at all youth sporting events.
- Recognize that your example is powerful and that you are a respected role model for your players and act accordingly. Prepare your practice sessions, be on time, allow your players to be innovative, be reasonable in your expectations, show enthusiasm, be generous with praise and NEVER ridicule or abuse players or intentionally try to harm them to "teach".
- Show respect for opponents and opposing coaches at all times.
- Understand that you are responsible for the behavior of your player's parents and other spectators for your team during games. The referee can bar you from the game for behavior by you or these groups which brings disrespect to the game.
- Support the referees at all times by always speaking in a respectful manner to them. Harassment or intimidation of officials will not be tolerated.
- Understand that if a complaint is made to any member of the SCCYSC Board of Directors regarding the conduct of a coach, that that person is entitled to a timely, formal review by a committee of Board members. Any coach who is found by this committee to be in violation of the spirit of this Code of Conduct may be disciplined (including game suspension or permanent removal of coaching privileges). Falsifying player passes, cheating or encouraging players to cheat, inciting players to commit fouls or injure opposing players, or poaching players from other league teams is unacceptable and is grounds for immediate dismissal.

I, _____ (Coach Name) have read and agree to adhere to the SCCYSC Coach's Code of Conduct.

Signed _____ Date _____