



Codes of Conduct

In order to ensure that the principles of sportsmanship, fair play, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators characterize all competition sponsored by the Oregon Soccer Association (OSA), the following Code of Conduct has been established. It is the obligation of all program administrators, coaches, parents, and players to create an environment that promotes this objective. Those who willfully violate this code jeopardize their participation in the OSA soccer program at the sole discretion of the OSA Board of Directors.

Coaches

The coach's role is one of teaching soccer skills and sportsmanship to the players. The coach is responsible for communicating this code of conduct to the players and parents. The coach is also responsible for monitoring the behavior of the players and parents during practice and games. All coaches within the soccer program will promote good sportsmanship among players, foster team camaraderie, and help participants have fun while teaching players the technical skills of soccer. Unsportsmanlike conduct of coaches will not be tolerated by OSA. Such unsportsmanlike conduct includes berating or making unkind comments to a player or referee that would reasonably be expected to cause substantial embarrassment to the player or referee. Other examples include willful failure to follow program rules. Each coach agrees to the code of conduct, certifies that he/she has read all OSA Rules and will abide by them and acknowledges that coaching in the soccer program is a privilege and not a right.

In addition, each Coach will ensure that his/her conduct sets a good example for team members and spectators. To meet these responsibilities, the Coach is expected to:

- Know the official Laws of the Game of soccer and the rules of OSA, and abide by them.
- Instruct player and parents in the rules and motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
- Respect the game officials at all times. Refrain from questioning their decisions or challenging their authority.
- Ensure that OSA rules are followed by all players and spectators.
- Ensure that fans of his or her team exhibit sportsmanship and maturity at all times and assist league and game officials in maintaining control of spectators during games.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team before, during, and after the game.
- Take appropriate steps to minimize scoring in runaway games.
- Teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions and avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.
- Teach and practice good sportsmanship and fair play by personally demonstrating commitment to these virtues.

Remember that soccer is a game, and treat players and coaches on other teams as opponents, not enemies.

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Players

Every player is expected to:

- Know and respect the rules of soccer and OSA and abide by them at all times.
- Show respect and courtesy to officials and coaches by following their instructions and directions.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions before, during, or after the game.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoiding the use of abusive or profane language, taunting or humiliating remarks, and/or gestures and physical assault upon another player at any time.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team and display sportsmanship at all times. At the conclusion of a game and be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Follow all OSA rules, respecting at all times the property of others.

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Parents and Spectators

The parents' role is one of support to the players and coaches. Parents should not engage in "coaching" from the sidelines, criticizing players, coaches or game officials or trying to influence the makeup of the team at any time. Every parent and spectator is expected to:

- Learn and respect the rules of soccer and the rules of the OSA.
- Show respect and courtesy to game officials, coaches, and players at all times.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions or from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful, or abusive manner.
- Cheer for your child's team in a positive manner, refraining at all times from making negative or abusive remarks about the opposing team. Maintain control of your emotions and avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.
- Ensure that your child is at all games and practices at the required time or inform the coach and team manager beforehand.
- Pay all fees and dues on or before the same become due.
- Demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at all times of a game, win, lose, or draw.
- Teach and practice good sportsmanship and fair play by personally demonstrating commitment to these virtues.

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