

# **ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER**

## **Code of Conduct & 24 Hour Policy**

Refer to updated Bylaws on [www.abingtonsoccer.com](http://www.abingtonsoccer.com). Listed below is the Code of Conduct that must be acknowledged during AYS online soccer registration process.

### **Parent, Player, and Coach Code of Conduct**

#### **PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT** Mandatory Acknowledgement.

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO PROVIDE POSITIVE SUPPORT, CARE, AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR MY CHILD BY FOLLOWING THE ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER'S CODE OF CONDUCT.

- I will wait 24 hours before engaging a Coach about any grievance I may have regarding play.
- I agree to support Abington Youth Soccer and their teams in requiring players to abide by the Players Code of Conduct.
- I will not use or possess alcohol, illegal drugs or weapons while attending Abington Youth Soccer matches.
- I will not under any circumstance shout abusively at my child or any other child.
- I will not under any circumstance shout abusively or threaten any physical abuse to any coach or referee.
- I will not dispute any call made by the referee; and I understand that Abington Youth Soccer may sanction any spectator who verbally abuses or assaults a referee.
- I will not coach my child or other children from the sideline during the game.
- I will only make positive comments to the players and it is understood that coaches and not parents shall provide instructional input during games.
- I understand that the game is for the children not for the adults.
- I understand that obscenities are strictly prohibited and that the referee shall instruct any spectator guilty of using obscenity to leave the venue.
- I understand that AYS parents are responsible for the behavior of all of their team's guests/spectators and that they shall act in accordance with the Code of Conduct.
- I understand that a spectators are to take the side of the field opposite the teams; spectators will remain at least 3 feet behind the touchline; if, during the match, the spectators behavior is out of line then the referee will ask the coaches to speak to the spectators; if the behavior continues, it is within the discretion of the referee to ask the offending spectator(s) to leave the venue; and the referee shall abandon the match if the spectators become unruly and out of control.
- I will not post negative comments or grievances on any social media.

#### **AYS COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT** Mandatory Acknowledgement.

We want to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators.

## **ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER**

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.

- Be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach & referee.
- Be responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If a player is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
- Be responsible for the conduct of the parents & spectators watching the game. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- Encourage applause & cheers for good plays by either team. Discourage yelling at players and referees and discourage "coaching from the sidelines."
- Do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the referee calmly & patiently after the game.
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to an AYS Board Member.
- Thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.
- I will not post negative comments or grievances on any social media.

We stress two points:

1) Referees, especially young and inexperienced ones, are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and inciting - or even accepting - your own players' overly aggressive behavior.

2) Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, or if you're overly concerned about results, and you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice. At no time should a player on any team be criticized in a degrading manner, whether during a practice or a game. Players will be treated with the utmost respect at all times.

### **24 HOUR RULE**

Games are extremely emotional for players, parents and coaches. Parents and coaches should NOT discuss individual player problems concerning the team or their child for 24 HOURS following a game or training session. This allows all a cooling off time and opportunity to discuss the child without the emotion of the game or training session as well as avoid regrettable public confrontation.

Coaches and parents who don't follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed.

## **ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER**

### PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT Mandatory Acknowledgement.

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO PROVIDE POSITIVE SUPPORT BY FOLLOWING THE ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

-I will play for fun and enjoyment of the game.

-I will work hard to improve my soccer skills.

-I will be a team player, get along with and cooperate with my coaches and teammates.

-I will always be a good sport.

-I will respect my coaches, teammates, parents, opponents, and referees.

-I will not argue with the referee.

-I will not use any profanity at practices or during games.

-I will not, under any circumstances, participate in physical violence or threats of physical violence before, during or after any game or practice.

-I will not use alcohol or illegal drugs.

-I will obey the laws of the game and play within the spirit of the laws.

-I will not post negative comments or grievances on any social media.