

Durango Youth Soccer Association

The following standards of conduct outline a philosophy that is paramount to the game of soccer. Soccer is a sport that belongs to the players. While soccer games are exciting for parents and spectators, parent and spectator excitement and enthusiasm must be both positive and controlled. Uncontrolled or abusive parental behavior is not accepted at Durango Youth Soccer Association. To help your children get the most out of competitive sports, we need to encourage their understanding that winning in the game is important but to be a winner in life is more important. We need to help them to make maximum efforts, continue to learn and improve and refuse to let mistakes (or fear of making mistakes) stop them. Let your child know you appreciate it when he or she tries hard even if unsuccessful. Try to get your child to talk about his or her play with open-ended questions rather than telling him/her what you think about it. Recognize hard work and let the coaches' critique their play. Your number one job is to fill your player's emotional tank and encourage them regardless of what happens in the game. Parents/Spectators participate in a match by watching, cheering and supporting the efforts of all participants in the match. Soccer must be fun. The game is for the children; their participation and enjoyment of the game are the most important elements.

Parent Code of Conduct

I WILL:

- During the games, refrain from making any comments to the game officials or parents of the opposing team.
- Give short bursts of encouragement during the game that is welcomed and needed
- Familiarize myself with the laws of the game, and always show respect to all players and spectators.
- Respect the referees and linesmen's authority in a professional and courteous manner and will not harass abuse or berate the officials during or after the match. I understand that I am not to enter the field of play without the official's permission.
- Not coach my child from the sideline and instead will allow the coach to coach, the referee to officiate and I will not criticize a coach in a public manner
- Support the team with encouragement and will not instruct the players. I understand that it may confuse my child and others, and undermines the efforts of the coach.
- Not approach the coach after the game for discussions about playing time, playing position etc. and instead will schedule another time to discuss my concerns realizing that sometimes it is better to let the dust settle for a couple of days.
- I will not consume alcoholic beverages or drugs at the fields of play.
- I will not bring dogs or other pets to any fields or property surrounding the fields unless the dog is trained to provide special assistance for persons with disabilities. This applies to both games and practices.

I will discuss issues concerning my child:

- Only with the coach first, then the Directors of Coaching
- Not with the manager or any other parent
- Only at a time mutually agreed upon with the coach
- Not immediately prior to, during or directly after a game.

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child participating in the soccer program by following this Code of Conduct. I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win. I will do my very best to make the game fun for my child. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex creed, or ability. I will promise to set a good example for my child by extending the same respect to all players, coaches, fans, and officials. I will always remember, the GAME is for the CHILDREN and NOT for the ADULTS.

The Board of Directors and the Directors of Coaching will suspend any person contributing to unsportsmanlike behavior.

Parent Name _____ and

Signature _____ Date _____