



Transylvania Youth Soccer Association RECREATION PROGRAM CODE OF CONDUCT

TYSA's Recreation Program is a community grassroots program. It is planned around the community need for the program and intended to serve the community, not TYSA. This is a special community and we want to keep it special, and keep inviting others to join. It is a grassroots program in that

TYSA's Parent/Caregiver, Player, and Volunteer Code of Conduct is critical to promote the three pillars of character, joy and skill that drive our club and help develop resilient young men and women on and off the field. Violation of one of these rules can lead to discipline, missed playing time or games and even removal from a team. Please understand that this includes parent/caregiver behavior as well.

Please know that in our pursuit of developing youth of character, a level of personal responsibility and discipline is required from all players and families. This translates to *respecting coaches, fellow teammates and others involved in the game atmosphere (referees, other team's families, etc.) with kindness, respect and integrity above and beyond what may be expected from other teams and organizations*. Thus, the standards described below should be considered *minimum guidelines* and we expect TYSA families, players, and volunteers to act above and beyond the standard.

PARENT/CAREGIVER CODE OF CONDUCT

Keep in mind; the top three reasons kids play sports are to:

**HAVE FUN
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
LEARN NEW SKILLS**

1. Parents/caregivers must allow the coach to coach, the referee to officiate and most importantly allow your child to play the game, all while fostering a positive environment.
2. Parents/caregivers should never coach from the sideline during games or training.
 - a. "Pass it to Jack!", "Dribble around her!" or "Shoot!" (among others) can seem helpful, but are often distracting or confusing to players.
 - b. In addition, these instructions may actually contradict what the coach has been teaching. Please do not coach from the sideline. The exception to this is with KinderKix, where we ask parents to be present and actively participating during practices on Saturdays.
3. When your child is at practice or games, the coach is in charge. Whether you agree or disagree, the coach is the decision maker.
4. Parents/caregivers should never criticize players on the team.
5. Do not criticize the coach to your child or any other parents/caregivers. If you are not happy with the coach, you should raise the issue directly with the coach or Recreation Director.
6. Make participation for your child and others a positive experience. Use words of encouragement

and unity, rather than criticism or division.

7. Be supportive and applaud good plays by your team. Cheering on your child and his or her teammates emphatically is encouraged.
8. Accept the results of each game and encourage your child to be gracious in victory. Likewise, use defeat as an opportunity to learn and grow.
9. Be your child's biggest fan and support them unconditionally. Don't treat them differently when they perform below a standard but also keep a level head when they have an outstanding game.
10. On the car ride home, only speak words of encouragement. "I loved watching you play" is a great place to start. Allow your child to lead any conversation about their play and stay positive. Keep in mind that your child is likely already self-critical and a parent/caregiver's words of critique are often cited by recreational and competitive athletes alike as their least favorite part of the sport and, in some cases, why they stop playing entirely. Be your child's biggest fan.
11. Encourage your child to speak with the coach. Let them claim ownership and responsibility of all aspects of the game.
12. Help your child focus on performance, improvement, and fun rather than game results.
13. Never criticize the opponents, their parents/caregivers, coaches or the referee. Do not question the referee's judgment, as the referee is a symbol of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship.
14. Parents/caregivers should never enter the field of play, the exception to this is KinderKix.
15. Parents/caregivers must be aware that referees are currently in short supply primarily because of poor behavior and criticism from parents and spectators. Referees are critical to the sport and serve an important (and difficult!) role. We ask our parents to respect the referees decision and, when appropriate, thank the referees for their efforts regardless of how we feel about their decisions. Any communication from parent or spectator to the referee should only express respect and gratitude.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Demonstrate fair play and good sportsmanship at every practice, game and tournament. Encourage fair play and good sportsmanship from other players, coaches, officials, and parents.
2. Attendance at every practice and game is required except when health related issues arise or for matters previously cleared with the coach. If a player cannot attend a practice, game or tournament due to health or other scheduling issues, this should be addressed with the coach as soon as you become aware of the conflict.
3. Come to practices and games on time and ready to learn completely prepared (e.g., shoes well tied, ready to practice and focus.) Accept responsibility for bringing any equipment necessary for practice (ball, cleats, shin guards, water,) and games (cleats, shin guards, water and team uniform).
4. Follow coaching direction with promptness, respect and kindness. Do not be disruptive during practice or games.
5. Treat other players, coaches, officials, and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, or ability, and expect to be treated accordingly. Conduct yourself with honor, dignity and treat other players

as you would like to be treated. Remember at all times that we are representing our team and our community.

6. Respect the authority of the referee, even though you may sometimes disagree with the call.
7. Understand that poor behavior during practices, games, or tournaments may result in lost playing time or expulsion from the team.
8. Respect for your coach and team means taking personal responsibility for your actions. As such, our players commit to respecting the coach's decisions and showing best effort at all games and training sessions. Our players are expected to avoid making excuses for repeated poor behavior and take ownership of mistakes, which we all make from time to time.
9. Our goal is to help all players maximize their ability but we do not guarantee equal playing time in games. Our goal is to provide quality playing time for all of our players, with playing time of 50% or greater expected for each player at the Academy Level and playing time at the Classic Level determined at the coach's discretion. If players are ever concerned about playing time or desire to play particular positions we encourage them to speak with their coaches during practices so that a plan might be put into place to help them achieve those goals if possible.
10. Within the framework of best effort, respect and personal accountability outlined above, we expect our kids to have fun and help create an atmosphere that is positive, working to include every person on each team as a welcome and contributing member, so that joy filled moments and experiences are created across many games, training sessions and seasons, leading to success on and off the field.

VOLUNTEER (COACH/REFREE) CODE OF CONDUCT

Keep in mind; the top three reasons kids play sports are to:

**HAVE FUN
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
LEARN NEW SKILLS**

As a TYSA Volunteer, you play a special role in the development of players. **Your encouragement and good example will do more to ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline than any other influence.** The other team is the opponent, not the enemy. Other players, coaches, parents, families, and referees should be treated with respect, regardless of race, color, religion, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. Any Volunteer engaging in improper conduct will be subject to the rules and disciplinary procedures of the TYSA. Sanctions may include removal from the facility, suspension from coaching, or separation from coaching with TYSA. Service as a Volunteer is a privilege and not a right, and TYSA, in its sole discretion, may remove a volunteer.

We expect TYSA Volunteers will:

1. Foster a soccer environment that is free of abusive, offensive or vulgar language.
2. Refrain from using drugs, tobacco or alcohol during games, practices or other team events and will not attend a game, practice or other team event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. Be curious about learning the guidelines of the game and best practices for coaches/referees.

4. Be gracious and humble in both victory and defeat, and expect this from their players.
5. Teach their players the rules of the game as it applies to their division.
6. Treat players in the manner in which they want their child to be treated.
7. Place the well-being of players before their own personal desire to win.
8. Strive to make soccer fun for their players.
9. Encourage my players to do their best, work hard, have a positive attitude and abide by the Player Code of Conduct.
10. Recognize the time and effort put forth by parents/caregivers in support of their children's activities.
11. Refrain from criticizing referees and instead provide support and guidance as needed.