



PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

This Parent Code of Conduct was prepared a few years ago by a very successful Bays United coach. This Code does an excellent job of describing the type of behaviour that best supports player development -- as they have FUN!

As a parent spectator at my child's soccer games my guests and I will:

- Remember that my child plays soccer for their own enjoyment, not mine;
- Praise and emphasize their development, effort, and skill over winning;
- Make my comments supportive, as players put enough pressure on themselves already;
- Never yell a negative remark at a player, including my own child, for any reason;
- Promote the emotional well-being of all athletes, ahead of any personal desires for my child;
- Acknowledge beautiful play from both my child's team and the opposition team;
- Never shout any remarks that question the judgement or honesty of a referee;
- Let the coaches do the coaching at every game and every practice;
- Per above, never yell player instructions or try to correct player mistakes from the sidelines, under any circumstance. This includes such instructions such as "Shoot it!", "Boot it!", "Pass it!", "Get there!", "What are you doing!?", "Watch out!", "Quickly!", "Pass it!", and "Faster!";
- This standard even extends to intelligent directions such as "Go wide!", "Keep your head up!", "Cover her!", "Get back!", and "You're Offside!";
- My remarks should simply show positive support and praise good play and honest effort;
- Understand that yelling excessive instructions is very distracting to an athlete;
- Understand that players must learn to make their own decisions during game play, and the best way to learn decision making is to actually be permitted to make decisions, including 'incorrect' decisions; and
- Understand that professional athletes get yelled at all the time, but that yelling is a negative distraction and arousal that they knowingly face, and soon learn to cope with, once they sign a multi-million dollar contract.

Furthermore, I will:

- Enjoy the soccer my child produces;
- Support all players on the team;
- Relax and enjoy the game, regardless of the circumstances and the score;
- Speak first with the Head Coach regarding any concerns I have about the team, before I vocalize them on the sideline or to another parent;
- Wait to discuss with the coach regarding any concerns until an arranged time and place away from the field of play; and
- Feel free to approach the coach regarding any aspect of the game of soccer.