

## Player and Parent Code of Conduct



In order to ensure that the players and volunteers in Region 878 have a method to manage behavioral issues that are encountered during the soccer season, Region 878 Hesperia Heat has established the below outlined roles, responsibilities, and code of conduct for our players and their parents. Players and parents must review the policy and provide signatures.

### **Parent and Spectator Responsibilities**

For a program to be truly successful, it takes the cooperation of everyone involved: players, coaches, officials, league administrators, and especially parents. Parents have the following responsibilities and expectations when participating in Region 878:

#### **Parents have a responsibility to their children:**

To make sure that your child gets the most out of his or her playing experience, parents should show their unwavering support, including positive reinforcement of your child's performance and effort. This is essential, especially at an early age, to ensure their healthy development. Parents should also be positive role models, including, but not limited to, showing proper sportsmanship always and refraining from negativity of any kind.

#### **Parents have a responsibility to the coaches:**

Coaches volunteer their personal time to spend with your child. They need you to be supportive of their decisions and not undermine their efforts. If you don't agree with the coach, you are expected to talk to the coach about concerns but make certain it is done respectfully and at the right time and place, and not in front of the children.

#### **Parents have a responsibility to the other parents:**

Personal gain and satisfaction should not be derived from your child's performance. Competition and taunting between parents are never acceptable, and no parent should ever feel embarrassed or disappointed by their team or child's performance. Good plays should always be cheered, and disappointments should always be consoled, no matter whose team it affects.

#### **Parents have a responsibility to themselves:**

It is your responsibility to enjoy watching your child and other children participate and learn. The joy and pride associated with watching children participate in sports and grow from the experience should be experienced to the fullest.

### **Parent Code of Conduct**

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Ethics Pledge:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

- I will do my very best to make youth sports 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 always encourage my child and teach them that honest effort is as important (maybe even more important) than winning.
- I will remain in the spectator area during competitions.
- I will support my child's coach and let him/her coach during the game.
- I will accept that officials are doing the best job they can.
- I will keep my emotions under control.
- I will help when asked by a coach or official.
- I will remember that my child will get the most out of sports with my love and positive support.

### **Parent Guidelines for Supportive Behavior**

Few youth programs are successful without the support of parents. Below are a few guidelines for concerned parents as they strive to support their young athletes:

- Supportive parents focus on mastering sport skills and strategies rather than on competitive ranking.
- Supportive parents decrease the pressure to win.
- Supportive parents believe that the sport's primary value is the opportunity for self-development.
- Supportive parents understand the risks that competition places on a child.
- Supportive parents communicate their true concerns directly with the coach.
- Supportive parents understand and respect the differences between parental roles and coaching roles.
- Supportive parents control negative emotions and think positively.
- Supportive parents avoid the use of fear and punishment to get kids to perform better.
- Supportive parents avoid criticizing children, coaches, and officials.
- Supportive parents recognize and understand expressions of insecurity and provide support when necessary.
- Supportive parents avoid the use of guilt to manipulate children to perform the way they want them to.
- Supportive parents show empathy for the young athlete.

### **Important Behaviors to Avoid**

- Don't put yourself in the place of your son or daughter on the field. Your child is in the game, not you. Glory or grief, it is his/her game.
- Don't criticize your child or other children on your child's team or other teams.
- Don't yell instructions to your child; that is the coach's job. Besides, your child will be able to hear your voice over the crowd, which will make him/her more nervous. Please shout encouragement only.
- Don't start analyzing your child's performance right after the game. All your child wants is peace, quiet, and something to eat.
- Never criticize the coach, even if you do not agree with their understanding or approach to teaching the game. Before you complain, decide whether you are ready to give up your valuable free time to step into the shoes of the coach. If not, don't complain.

- Don't abuse or criticize the officials. This type of behavior does not promote the respect for authority you expect from your children.
- Don't decide that your child has a future with a professional team, but don't write him off either. Kids mature athletically at different paces.
- Don't forget to praise your child for simply performing. Don't over praise or dwell on a mistake with scorn or anger.
- Don't forget to praise all the players after a game, even if they lost.

### **Player Roles and Responsibilities**

- Players will listen to their coaches and be respectful of their elders.
- Players will take care of the facilities, equipment, and uniforms, which they are given.
- Players will make sure to eat the right foods and drink plenty of water before and after practices and games.
- Players will refrain from any bullying activities including, but not limited to taunting and belittling remarks to their teammates or opponents.
- Players will always show good sportsmanship, win or lose.
- Players will not place sports as a priority over schoolwork or family.
- Players will refrain from horseplay and all other dangerous activities, in which they may become hurt.
- Players will participate for the love of the game and to improve themselves and their teams and not to win at all costs.
- Players will wear appropriate attire during athletic activities. The following are examples of inappropriate attire: clothing that is revealing, vulgar and/or adult themes, logos, or advertising of inappropriate brands (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or weapons).

### **Player Code of Conduct**

- I will play for the fun of it!
- I will treat my coaches, other players, officials, and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will play by the Laws of the Game. I will control my temper and resist the temptation to retaliate.
- I will attend every practice and game that I can and will notify my coach if I cannot.
- I will play soccer with my best effort.
- I will remember to work as hard for my team as I do for myself.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.
- I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn and have fun. I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches, referees, and teammates.
- I will encourage my parents to be involved with my soccer experience in some capacity because it's important to me.

### **Parent and Player Agreement Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge the code of conduct for play in Region 878 and I will adhere to the requirements

\*Electronic Acknowledgment during registration is leveraged. The parent's electronic acknowledgment of this document indicates they will ensure their player is aware of the code of conduct.

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_

Team # \_\_\_\_\_

**Corrective Action Policy**

Within Region 878, we hold a strong belief that the fields be a safe place for kids to enjoy soccer. It is the philosophy of Region 878, that parents should not spoil the experience of participation in youth sports for the children. Therefore, parents who do not follow the Code of Ethics will be subject to a corrective action plan. Players who fail to adhere to the Code of Conduct or do not live up to their responsibilities or expectations will be subject to disciplinary action. **Spectators who behave inappropriately toward a youth referee, youth assistant referee, or youth coach helper will immediately be ejected from the field and receive at least a 1-match suspension.**

The corrective action policy is designed to forgive a mistake but to firmly address chronic misbehavior. For violations of the Code of Conduct or Expectations, these steps will most likely be followed. Severe situations could merit harsher sanctions against participants. The match referee or a board member has the authority to request a spectator leave the premises if necessary.

Offense	Action
First	Coach, referee, or board member will discuss the undesirable conduct with the parent and player, if applicable.  The parent and player, if applicable, will sign the first offense acknowledgment.  Submit information to the CVPA for awareness and documentation.
Second	Coach, referee, or board member will discuss undesirable conduct with the parent and stress that this behavior will not be tolerated. The parent and player, if applicable, will sign the second offense acknowledgment.  Submit information to the CVPA for follow-up on the situation. CVPA will discuss with the player's family (and player if applicable). Any further incident will result in exclusion from the remainder of the season activities.
Third	The parent will be asked to remain off the field during practice, warm-ups, and games.  If offense is for the player, they will be expelled from the league and no refund will be given. The parent will then have to make a formal request to be reinstated into this league. The child and parent(s) will then have to meet with a review panel prior to the start of the season to determine if the child can play within the guidelines of this program.

**Occurrence Acknowledgement**

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_