

GOSHEN SOCCER CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

The primary objective of youth programs in the Goshen Soccer Club (GSC) is to promote participation by all children regardless of ability. The emphasis shall be on developing the skills and abilities of the player through learning and participation. GSC programs exist for the benefit of the players and the focus of all organized leagues shall be on the teaching basic skills to the participants and on emphasizing good sportsmanship.

A. Players Code of Conduct

1. Participate for the fun and enjoyment of the sport.
2. Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, or the most important one.
3. Work hard to improve your skills.
4. Support your teammates and be a team player.
5. Be on time for all practices and games and notify your coach if you cannot be there.
6. Learn the rules and play by them.
7. Respect your coaches, teammates, parents, opponents and officials. Never argue with the decision of an official or coach.
8. Respect the playing field and the surrounding area. Leave all facilities, including practice and game facilities clean.

B. Parents Code of Conduct

1. Support your child's desire to play soccer, do not force them. Children should be involved for their enjoyment and help them to make it fun.
 2. Encourage your child to play by the rules. Children learn by example, applaud the good play of both teams.
 3. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other soccer event. Do not yell at players, coaches or officials. You may be ejected from the area for this behavior.
 4. Emphasize the benefit of skill development and de-emphasize the competition especially in lower age groups.
 5. Study and learn the rules of the game and support the officials.
 6. Applaud a good effort in victory or defeat.
 7. Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. Communicate with them and support them. If possible, volunteer your time to help.
- Always place the emotional and physical well-being of players ahead of any personal desire to win.

C. Coaches Code of Conduct

1. Ensure that your parents and players have read and understand the Parent & Player Code of Conduct.
2. Be a positive role model to your players. Lead by example. Always display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of the players.
3. Always place the emotional and physical well-being of players ahead of any personal desire to win. Care more about your players than winning the game. Emphasize that winning is the result of good "teamwork" as opposed to individual effort.

3. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Be consistent, fair, honest and just in interacting with your players.
4. Do not yell at players or verbally abuse a player, coach, official or other participant.
5. Never initiate physical contact with any player in anger, frustration or for the purpose of enforcing discipline. Behavior of this type will be subject you to criminal charges in addition to any league sanctions which may be imposed.
6. Adjust to the different personal needs and problems of your players.
7. Give all players the opportunity to participate and to improve their skills.
8. Organize practices so that they are fun and challenging to the players.
9. Study and learn the rules of the game.
10. Maintain an open line of communication with the parents of all of your players. Work together to develop the goals and objective of the sport.
11. Coaches are responsible for assisting the game officials in controlling their players and parents during a game.
12. Immediately seek medical attention for any serious injuries and report all injuries to the appropriate league officials. Remove any player from participation when the player is experiencing pain or any other medical condition until competent medical advice is available.
13. No consumption of alcoholic beverages during any GSC practices, games or tournaments.

All GSC staff, players and spectators are expected to adhere to the GSC Code of Conduct. All coaches, athletes, parents, league officials, and spectators are expected to behave in a manner that reflects respect and good sportsmanship at all times. The ultimate decision concerning appropriate behavior in a game situation shall rest with the certified official(s) working the game. If a certified official directs a player, coach, parent or spectator leave the playing area, the person is to leave immediately. If a confrontation develops at any time, leagues officials are encouraged to seek the immediate assistance of the Village of Goshen Police Department. Any and all participants in any type of physical confrontation or altercation shall forfeit their privilege of participating in or attending any GSC event for one year in addition to any other penalties imposed by the league or any other agency. The following is considered disruptive behavior and shall not be tolerated at any time. Officials shall have the authority to eject any individual who engages in this type of behavior:

- Inappropriate or foul language directed at coaches, players, officials or other fans.
- Excessive berating of officials that includes loud, disapproving expressions directed toward an official.
- Taunting of opposing players, coaches or fans.
- Refusing to leave a restricted area (i.e. behind a backstop, near the team bench area, etc.) when requested to do so by an official.

The consequences for violation of this agreement are at the sole discretion of the club, but include:

- Fines
- Individual or family suspension of increasing time periods
- Individual or family indefinite suspension
- Individual or family permanent ban
- Legal Action

Coaches and Parent Volunteers

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH COACH, ASSISTANT COACH AND EACH PARENT TO:

Emphasize the proper ideals of, and lead by example in demonstrating sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.

1. Remember that children play for fun and enjoyment. Always place the emotional and physical well-being of players ahead of any personal desire to win. Never ridicule or yell at children for making mistakes or losing a game.
2. Show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
3. Respect the property of communities that you are visiting.
4. Respect the integrity and judgment of the referee.
5. Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game, the SYSC and the soccer organizations we are affiliated with.
6. Show respect for all players, coaches, fans and officials regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
7. Remember that children need adult role models they can respect. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved and set a good example.
8. Treat each player as an individual, remembering there may be a large spread of physical and emotional development of members of the same team.
9. To the extent practicable, follow the advice of a physician or parent when determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
10. Make a commitment to educate yourself on positive coaching principles and the principles of growth and development of children.

Players

AS A PLAYER OF THE GOSHEN SOCCER CLUB I PLEDGE TO:

- Come to all practices, training sessions and games prepared to play, ready to listen and equipped with appropriate uniform (for practices and games).
- Be respectful to all players on my team and other teams.
- Be respectful to all coaches and referees.
- Refrain from using abusive and/or taunting language while at practice, before, during and after a game.
- Refrain from physical abuse of other players, coaches, referees, parents and spectators while at practice, before, during and after a game.
- Support the team and other teammates by following the game while on the sidelines.

Parents

AS A PARENT OF A GOSHEN SOCCER PLAYER, I PLEDGE TO:

- Support my child's efforts to be on time and be prepared for all practices, training sessions and games.
- Not question the calls of the referee or the actions of the coach.
- Provide encouragement to my child and all team players.
- Be respectful of all players on my child's team and opposing teams, coaches, referees and spectators.
- Discuss all issues with my child's coach privately and at a time away from the game.
- Refrain from unsportsmanlike behavior, including verbal or physical abuse of players, coaches, referees and other spectators at practice, before, during and after games

As a parent of a GSC player, I agree to review these guidelines with my child and to abide by the guidelines as listed.

Acceptance of Club Code of Conduct

I have read the GSC player and parent(s) code of conduct and understand that as part my acceptance of the roster position being offered on the team, I will follow these guidelines. Failure to abide by one or more principles of the GSC Code of Conduct may result in suspension or expulsion of player and/or parent from practices, games and/or the Club.

Document must be signed and returned to GSC prior to player being permitted to play in first game.

Team Name: _____ Date: _____

Athlete's Name (Please print): _____

Athlete's Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Name (Please print): _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____