

PLAYERS' CONDUCT

Every player in the Taos Youth Soccer League is expected to conduct him or herself appropriately on and off the field. We want other organizations to be able to identify our club through the exemplary conduct of our players. Nothing less will be accepted!

CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AT TRAINING SESSIONS & GAMES

Provided below are the standards established by TYSL to govern the behavior of players before, during and after soccer matches and during training sessions:

- Do not address remarks to opposing players, coaches, spectators, or referees except when remarks convey genuine friendship and respect or are in response to questions by the referee.
- Do not retaliate when fouled.
- Avoid comments or gestures, which express disgust or disagreement with referee calls. These are card able offenses.
- Control your temper. Display of temper will not be tolerated on the field or in the playing area.
- Convey a consistently positive attitude toward your teammates and coaches. Your true strength of character will be displayed on the field when you are under pressure and your team is losing. What kind of person are you?
- Play against your opponents, not the referee. Worrying over referee calls with which you disagree can prevent your playing your best. Fewer than one in one hundred referee calls have any influence on the outcome of a game.
- Show good sportsmanship at all times.
- Treat your teammates with respect. This will build team chemistry and camaraderie.
- The entire team will shake hands with the opposing team and referee at the end of the match.

Players who persist in violating these standards of conduct will jeopardize their standing as players within TYSL. Flagrant disregard for rules of play and standards of conduct will result in stringent disciplinary action, including possible loss of standing, loss of out-of-state travel privileges, and/or complete removal from the Club.

PARENT PARTICIPATION & CONDUCT

One aspect of all nonprofit organizations is a continuing need for volunteers to fill roles as organizers and participants in special events as well as helping in the general operation and administration of the Club. Aside from its professional training staff, TYSL consists entirely of volunteers who dedicate a considerable amount of their time to make sure the Club functions smoothly and provides the best environment possible to players and parents. Volunteers act as team managers, etc. and help with activities at both the club and team levels. Without volunteers, the Club would not exist.

We encourage parents to become involved in the activities of the Club. If you are interested in helping, please contact your coach, team manager or a member of the TYSL Board. Volunteers do not receive any special treatment or consideration from the club.

To have a successful program, there must be understanding and cooperation among parents, players, team managers and trainers. Your child's progress and success will depend on this relationship. With this in mind, we ask you to seriously consider this section as your family joins TYSL.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AND THE TEAM COACHES/TEAM MANAGERS

Your child needs your positive support at home, on the practice field and on the competition field. This will help your child to be more confident, enjoy soccer more, and perform better in training and in competition.

A player develops best when he/she trusts and respects the coach. The coach's job is to motivate, teach, and constructively critique each player's performance. We want the players to relate to their coach as soon as possible regarding soccer issues. This relationship between coach and player produces the best results. When parents express opinions as to how a player should play, what position they should play, how much playing time they should receive, etc., it causes considerable confusion. If you have particular concerns, suggestions, or just a question, please speak to your team coach or manager. **Above all, avoid coaching your child during a game.**

COMMUNICATE THROUGH YOUR TEAM COACH/TEAM MANAGER

Remember, there is a time and place for everything. If you need information or wish to ask questions concerning team management or coaching decisions, please contact the team manager and/or the team trainer to obtain the information or to arrange a meeting. Concerns or constructive criticisms are welcome, but should be expressed away from training sessions and games. If you have questions concerning the Club, ask your team coach or manager or contact the appropriate member of the TYSL Board.

TRAINING SESSIONS

You are encouraged to observe your child and to learn more about soccer. **However, when the team is training, preparing for a match or working in some other related capacity, please do not disturb or interrupt the trainers or players.** Please remember that training sessions are learning situations and players need to concentrate to improve.

BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT

TYSL maintains high standards for its players, team managers and trainers as regards behavior and conduct. These same standards apply to parents and spectators as well.

The Club and its teams are affected by poor behavior and conduct of its parents and players. A team can be issued a yellow or a red card for the behavior of parents/spectators and thus can accumulate discipline points. Each of us, managers, trainers and parents, must set an example of good behavior and sportsmanship for our children.

CONDUCT OF SPECTATORS

The explosive increase in the popularity of soccer in the United States is partly due to spectator enjoyment of the free form, continuous play that characterizes the game. This extra intensity sometimes gives rise to abusive and destructive comments from spectators. We cannot tolerate this activity in soccer.

The following standards are set forth to govern spectator conduct, before, during and after soccer matches:

- Do not address remarks to referees, opposing players or opposing fans. This does not apply where remarks convey genuine friendship and encouragement.
- Never use foul language or obscene gestures.
- Avoid remarks toward your team's players that have made mistakes. If you are aware of the error, you may rest assured that the player is even more aware.
- Applaud superior play by both teams.
- Give consistent support to coaches and managers whether winning or losing. Coaches are giving hundreds of hours to their players and are committed to their continued improvement as coaches. In winning they deserve your congratulations, in losing your encouragement.
- Always stay two yards or more from the playing field.
- Cooperate immediately with any referee request.
- Avoid comments and gestures, which express disagreement with referee calls. Continued remarks or abusive disagreement with referees' calls may result in a cardable offense chargeable to your team's coach or manager.
- Do not confront a coach during or immediately after a game. If there are any aspects of a game which you would like to discuss with the team's coach, arrange for a meeting at a later time

It is the individual responsibility of each coach, manager, player, parent and spectator to control his or her sideline behavior. In order to help protect the image of TYSL, as well as your own image, the RVFC Board of Directors will review specific instances of problem sideline behavior.

Persons who cannot conduct themselves as outlined here are not welcome at TYSL soccer matches. Individuals who persist in violating these standards will be asked to leave the playing area. Play will be suspended until they do so.

COMMITMENTS

1. Support and maintain TYSL standards.
2. Fulfill your parental, financial, and volunteer obligations.
3. Allow coaches to perform their commitments on a noninterference basis during practices and games.
4. Foster an environment of academic excellence and good sportsmanship.

PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

SAFETY – COACHES WILL

- A team coach's first responsibility is the health, safety and well being of all participants.
- As a recommendation, become certified in basic First Aid
- Be aware of club, league and /or state requirements
- Be prepared to handle First Aid situations as well as medical emergencies at all practices and games, both home and away.
 - Have and know how to use a properly supplied First Aid kit.
 - Know the 911 Emergency procedures/telephone locations.
 - Know the location of the nearest emergency medical facilities.
 - Always carry the players' emergency medical release forms as well as team safety and information cards.
 - Follow up all injuries with parents/guardians.
- Know and understand the Laws of the Game.
- Inspect players' equipment and field conditions for safety reasons.
- Utilize proper teaching and instructing of players regarding safe techniques and methods of play.
- Implement an appropriate training program to make sure players are fit for practice and competition.
- Supervise and control players so as to avoid injuries.
- Continue their education in the sport.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT – COACHES WILL

- Develop the child's appreciation of the game.
- Keep winning and losing in proper perspective.
- Be sensitive to each child's developmental needs.
- Educate the players to the technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level.
- Implement rules and modify equipment to the players' age group.
- Allow players to experience all positions.
- Ensure players have fun and receive positive feedback.
- Conduct practices in the spirit of enjoyment and learning.
- Provide the appropriate number of training sessions and games according to the players' stage of development.
- Strive to help players reach their full potential, prepared to move on to the next stage of development.

ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM – COACHES WILL

- Strive to maintain integrity within our sport.
- Know and follow all the rules and policies set forth by clubs, leagues, state and national associations.
- Work in the spirit of cooperation with officials, administrators, coaches and spectators in order to provide the participants with the maximum opportunity to develop.
- Be a positive role model.
- Set the standard for sportsmanship with opponents, referees, administrators and spectators.
- Keep sport in proper perspective with education.
- Encourage moral and social responsibility.
- Just say no to drugs.