

# TAOS YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

## *Competitive Teams Codes of Conduct*

### **Coaching Staff**

Head Coach:

Assistant Coach:

Technical Skills Trainer:

### **PLAYERS' CONDUCT**

Every player involved with the Taos Soccer program is expected to behave appropriately on and off the field. We want other organizations/schools to be able to identify our program 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 the Taos Soccer coaching staff 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 that 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 you disagree with can prevent you from playing your best. Fewer than one in one hundred referee calls influence the outcome of a game.
- Always show good sportsmanship.
- 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 the THS Lady Tiger program. Flagrant disregard for rules of play and standards of conduct will result in stringent disciplinary action, including possible loss of standing and/or complete removal from the team.

### **PARENT PARTICIPATION & CONDUCT**

We encourage parents to become involved in our team's activities. If you are interested in helping, please contact your coach or team manager. Please note that the team will not treat the daughters/players of the volunteers with any special treatment or consideration.

Parents, players, coaches, and trainers must understand and cooperate for a successful program. 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 the Taos Soccer program.

### **SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AND THE TEAM COACHES/TEAM MANAGERS**

Your child needs positive support at home, on the practice field, and in competition. This will help your child become more confident, enjoy soccer, and perform better in training and 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 about how a player should play, what position they should play, how much playing time they should receive, etc., it causes considerable confusion. Please speak to your team coach or manager with concerns, suggestions, or questions. **Above all, avoid coaching your child during a game.**

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### 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 head coach and/or assistant coach 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.

### TRAINING SESSIONS

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

### BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT

Taos Soccer soccer maintains high standards for its players, coaches, and trainers regarding behavior and conduct. These same standards apply to parents and spectators as well.

THS Lady Tiger soccer and its team are affected by the 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. We, coaches, 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-flowing, 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 who have made mistakes. If you know the error, you may rest assured that the player is even more aware.
- Applaud superior play by both teams.
- Support coaches and managers consistently, whether they are winning or losing. Coaches give hundreds of hours to their players and are committed to their continued improvement as coaches. In winning, they deserve your congratulations, and in losing, your encouragement.
- Always stay twenty yards or more from the playing field.
- Cooperate immediately with any referee request.
- Avoid comments and gestures that express disagreement with referee calls. Continued remarks or abusive disagreement with referees' calls may result in a card-able offense chargeable to your team's coach or manager.
- Do not confront a coach during or immediately after a game. If you have any aspects of the game you would like to discuss with the team's coach, arrange for a meeting later.

Each coach, manager, player, parent, and spectator controls his or her sideline behavior. To help protect the image of THS Soccer and your own image, the THS Lady Tiger staff will review and address specific instances of problem sideline behavior.

Persons who cannot conduct themselves as outlined here are not welcome at THS Lady Tiger soccer matches. Individuals who violate these standards will be asked to leave the playing area, and play will be suspended until they do so.

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### COMMITMENTS

1. Support and maintain THS Lady Tiger soccer standards.
2. Fulfill your parental, financial, and volunteer obligations.
3. Allow coaches to perform their commitments noninteractively 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 to ensure all participants' health, safety, and well-being.
- As a recommendation, become certified in basic First Aid
- Be aware of NMAA, club, league and /or state requirements
- Be prepared to handle First Aid situations and medical emergencies at all practices and games, 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 and team safety and information cards.
  - Follow up on 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 ensure players are fit for practice and competition.
- Supervise and control players 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 on the game's technical, tactical, physical, and psychological demands 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 player's 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 clubs, leagues, state and national associations set forth.
- Work in cooperation with officials, administrators, coaches, and spectators to ensure that the participants have 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.