



Sporting Lee's Summit Coach Code of Conduct

Sporting Lee's Summit Soccer Programs focus on the best interest of the youthful participants in an atmosphere of wholesome community participation with an emphasis dedicated to helping children enrich their lives and on becoming good and decent citizens in the community. Sporting Lee's Summit Soccer Programs strive to inspire youthful participants with the fundamental principles of teamwork and fair play, while having a focus on fun.

As a coach for Sporting LS Soccer Program, I agree to the following:

1. I am representing Sporting LS, my community and my team and agree to act accordingly, at all times.
2. I will learn and know the rules of the game and the policies of Sporting LS as defined in the Sporting LS Constitution and shall support and uphold them always.
3. I understand that coaching is a position of trust. Therefore, I will be a positive role model for my players and will maintain my personal integrity and dignity, at all times.
4. I will demand a sports environment that is free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco and will refrain from their use at all games, exhibitions, practices and events. I will never coach a game or conduct a practice under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
5. I will never swear, use profanity or make obscene gestures, or engage in any inappropriate behavior or conduct, at any time.
6. I will always remember that my players are involved in Sporting LS Programs for fun and enjoyment, and I will do everything possible to keep the game fun and enjoyable. I am a youth coach and understand that the game is for the children, not the adults.
7. I will always have a positive attitude and will always praise my players for trying hard, playing fair and doing their best, regardless of the outcome of the game.
8. I will never criticize or yell at any player for making a mistake. I will not tolerate any physical or verbal abuse in youth sports.
9. I understand that winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. I will place the well being of every player above my personal desire to win. I will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
10. I understand that being a coach means being, first and foremost, a teacher. I will teach my players basic skills, techniques and strategies, and will give all my players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem at practice and in games.
11. I will always display good sportsmanship and fair play, and will encourage the same from my players, colleagues, opponents, parents and spectators.
12. I will treat my players in a fair and equal manner. I will stress that teamwork and being a team player are more important than individual goals.

13. I will know and understand Sporting LS playing time guidelines and will give every player an opportunity to play as much as possible. I will never, knowingly or intentionally violate any provision of the Sporting LS playing time guidelines.
14. I will maintain an open line of communication with my players and parents. I will explain goals and objectives for the team, as well as the rules of the game and the policies of Sporting LS, whenever requested or necessary, to the best of my ability.
15. I will inspect all equipment and fields on a regular basis to ensure the safety of my players.
16. I will respect the referees and game officials and their authority during every game. I will never dispute, challenge or excessively argue any decisions made by them, or confront any referee or league official at the field before, during or after the game. Whenever necessary, I will take the time to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a referee or league official.
17. I understand that I am responsible for my parent's actions and will do whatever necessary to ensure they do not act in an inappropriate manner. The parents should never address the other team players, coach or family members.
18. I acknowledge that this Code of Conduct has been adopted by Sporting LS and agree that if I fail to abide by the rules and guidelines; I will be subject to disciplinary action by Sporting LS that could include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Warning
 - Probation
 - Game suspension
 - Season suspension
 - Removal from program
19. If a coach receives a red card during a game he will automatically be issued a 2-game suspension. If the coach refuses to leave the field after the red card has been issued they will be issued a 3-game suspension.
20. In the event a situation arises which calls for interpretation, Sporting LS will consider the best interest of each athlete, the entire team, the Sporting LS Soccer Club, and the integrity of the soccer game. Sporting LS board decisions will be final.