



## **Indianola Soccer Tribe Coach Code of Conduct**

**The primary job of a coach is to make the kids love the game, then they will learn it.**

### **I will:**

- Remember that I coach children, not a sport, and will focus on more than just winning games.
  - Some players need tactics, some need techniques, some need discipline, and ALL need encouragement. As a result, I will focus on the OVERALL development of my players, not just their soccer skills, and I will give ALL players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence, and develop self-esteem.
- Adapt my coaching to meet the players where they are as kids (both maturity and skill level), and focus on growth as one of the main goals for the season.
- Be an athlete centered coach and work on asking the right questions instead of always giving the right answers, as I believe today's result is not a good indicator of learning and growth if the outcome is the result of an over-coaching influence and not athlete discovery.
  - The intelligence has to be on the field, not on the sideline.
- Accept the responsibility of team leadership and lead by example during all games, being humble in victory and gracious in defeat and extend respect and courtesy to match officials, coaches, and other volunteers.
- Be accountable for the conduct of players, coaches, and spectators affiliated with my team.
- Stay calm and work to de-escalate situations when emotions begin to get heated.
- Abide by the rules established by the associations and leagues that the Indianola Soccer Tribe is affiliated with. This includes reporting any yellow and/or red cards to the Board within 24 hours of the game in which it occurred.
- Keep the kids at the forefront of ***their*** youth sports experience

### **I will not:**

- "Deal with" parents, I will engage them and maintain an open line of communication with all players and parents on the team.
- Be a "puppet master" coach and take the joy of playing away from my players by constantly telling them what to do and calling out every single item I see from the sideline.
- Verbally or physically abuse a player, parent, spectator or opposing coach.
- Lose control of my temper or use profanity in the presence of players.
- Criticize, harass, heckle or otherwise disrespect a game official.
- Incite players, team officials, or spectators into conduct towards officials that is contrary to the Laws of the Game.
- Encourage, condone, or permit any player to engage in conduct with the intent of causing injury to an opponent.
- Negatively discuss players, parents, or coaches in the presence of the like.

**Enjoy the work. Enjoy the game. Strive to win, but remember that is just the goal of the matches. The purpose of youth sports is the growth and development of the players by connecting them to caring adults in the community.**