



SACRAMENTO YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

SYSL Code of Conduct

SYSL is committed to ensuring a fun, safe, and respectful soccer environment for its membership. As such, SYSL has zero tolerance for violent, threatening, or abusive behavior by any player, coach, parent, spectator, or official. Any abusive or threatening behavior may result in suspension or expulsion from SYSL.

While winning is important, I/we recognize that playing well and fairly is the essence of the game. I/we will set a good example for my/our child's soccer development by adhering at all times to the following:

1. We will not criticize or harass referees in a disrespectful or demeaning manner before, during, or after games. Any criticism or complaint must be submitted in writing to the SYSL Head Referee or the appropriate club referee assignor.
2. We will give only positive and encouraging feedback to all players on the field, on both teams.
3. We will practice and display good sportsmanship by recognizing when a game has become unbalanced and one team is overly dominant. We will be mindful that excessive cheering for a team that is winning by a large margin may be discouraging to the opposing players.
4. We will continue to model good sportsmanship for our children by encouraging them to participate in the post-game handshake with the opposing team, opposing coach, and referee.
5. We understand that inappropriate or aggressive behavior at any match, practice, or other SYSL-sponsored activity will not be tolerated and may result in a parent or spectator being directed to leave the field or event by a referee, club official, or SYSL Board member. Any removal or ejection will be handled in accordance with the Laws of the Game, SYSL rules, and the rules of the applicable competition.
6. We will allow the coach to fulfill coaching duties without interference. As parents or spectators, we will not give instructions to or direct players on the field during the match. We understand that, upon review and when appropriate, SYSL may suspend an individual's privilege to attend matches if that person behaves in a rude, offensive, threatening, or abusive manner.
7. We will not enter the field of play without the referee's consent before, during, or after a match. We understand that entering the field in a threatening or aggressive manner will result in ejection and may result in further disciplinary action by the SYSL Board.
8. We will remain behind the spectator line or within the designated spectator area for all games. If a game official or referee asks us to move, we will comply without argument.
9. If spectators interfere with the game by using foul or abusive language toward referees, opposing players, coaches, or others, or by acting in a way that makes participants or officials feel unsafe, the referee will stop the game and direct the coach responsible for those spectators to address the behavior. If the behavior continues, the referee will stop the match and require the sideline to be cleared. Spectators will be given two minutes to leave. If they refuse to leave, or if comments or behavior directed toward the referee continue, the referee will terminate the match, resulting in a forfeit by the offending team.
10. We understand that the SYSL Board has the authority to suspend an individual's privilege to attend as a spectator at any match or event for disrespectful, offensive, threatening, or violent behavior. Any suspension will be reviewed by the SYSL Board in accordance with the SYSL process.
11. By registering a child to play in SYSL, we fully acknowledge and agree to follow the rules above, become familiar with the SYSL Bylaws and playing rules, and accept any sanctions or disciplinary action imposed by SYSL.
12. As a coach within SYSL, I acknowledge that I will follow applicable U.S. Soccer, SAY Soccer, and SYSL Bylaws, policies, guidelines, and playing rules, with U.S. Soccer requirements taking precedence where applicable. I will respect, accept, and abide by decisions of the SYSL PAD Committee and Board.