

# Coaches Code of Conduct

The example you set as a youth soccer coach is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice and most, if not all, will follow your example. If you encourage or allow your players to play outside the rules, if you're overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will expect they can do likewise.

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**As an ASC coach, I hereby agree to follow the ASC and MassYouthSoccer guidelines for coaches' conduct outlined below:**

- 1** I will display good sportsmanship and fair play at all times. I will teach my players to win graciously and lose graciously. Before, during and after practices and games, I will be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- 2** The emotional and physical well being of my players will be placed ahead of my personal desire to win. I will remember that this game is for the children and not the adults.
- 3** I will hold a pre-season meeting to explain to parents and players my coaching philosophy and goals, and what is acceptable behavior at practices and games. I will distribute to all parents the ASC "Keeping it Fun" flyer. I will also encourage my parents to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team.
- 4** I will make myself knowledgeable in the game of soccer for the level that I coach, and will make every effort to run practices that are both enjoyable and challenging.
- 5** I will make sure no child is left behind without a ride after practices and games.
- 6** I will check the playing field before practices and games for reasons of safety.
- 7** I will make every effort to play each player at least 50% of the time during every game.
- 8** During the game, I will be responsible for the conduct of all my players, their parents, and other spectators who are supporters of my team.
- 9** After the game, I will thank the referee, and ask my players to do the same. I will have my team give a cheer for the opposing team, and will line-up and shake hands with the opposing team
- 10** I will treat all referees with respect at all times and will adhere to the Zero-Tolerance Rule. I will educate my parents about the Zero-Tolerance Rule, and will make sure the ZT Rule is adhered to at all times at games. If I have a complaint or think a referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, I will report my opinion to the ASC and will not directly complain to the referee.

**Signature:**

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