

NEWBERG YOUTH SOCCER

Participant Conduct Policy

Introduction

Sportsmanship as defined by Merriam-Webster's dictionary is "conduct (such as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning and losing) becoming to one participating in a sport." Newberg Youth Soccer players, parents, and coaches are expected to demonstrate sportsmanlike conduct on and off the field. Additionally, statistics show that 70% of children quit youth sports by age 13. Stories abound of youth coaches who quit due to abuse from the parents. Referees are becoming increasingly hard to come by as they leave their positions due to poor behavior from coaches and parents. Following Newberg Youth Soccer's Participant Conduct Policy will help ensure that our children, their coaches, and the referees are safe and respected.

Failure to follow Newberg Youth Soccer's Participant Conduct Policy may result in disciplinary action including but not limited to: verbal or written warnings, suspension from games and practices, ejection from matches, or dismissal from the team.

For Players

- Treat teammates with kindness and respect. You don't have to like all your teammates, but you must not treat them poorly. Personal problems are kept off the pitch and resolved outside of practices and games. Bullying will not be tolerated.
- Treat your coaches with respect. Listen when the coach is teaching, follow directions, and regard your coach as a mentor and authority figure.
- Accept coaching decisions with grace. You can respectfully voice your opposition in private after practices or games.
- Arrive to games and practices on time and ready to give your best effort.
- Make an effort to attend team bonding activities.
- Follow the rules of the game.
- Accept referee decisions with dignity. Arguing with or swearing at referees is unacceptable.
- If someone is injured in a game, take a knee until the incident is resolved.
- Shake hands or high five opponents after every game.
- Win or lose fairly. No gloating or taunting when the results are in your favor, and express your disappointment or displeasure in a mature manner after losses.
- No retaliating against fouls.
- Have fun and enjoy the game.

For parents

- Help us remove abusive sideline behavior in youth sports by remembering that these are children, this is not a pro league, and your children's sports are not about you.
- Encourage your player to do their best and engage in sportsmanlike conduct. Set the example by doing the same.
- Accept coaching decisions with grace. Take up any problems you have with the coach in private.
- We ask that you not approach coaches with game concerns until the day after a game.
- Cheer, encourage, and support from the sidelines. Please do not coach or jeer from the sidelines.
- Demeaning referees or players from the sideline may result in being ejected from a game.
- Communicate with the coaching staff and team manager about injuries, illnesses, and absences.
- Support your player in their soccer journey by attending meetings and team bonding experiences whenever possible.
- Teach your athlete how to communicate with their coach.

For coaches

- Treat players and parents with respect.
- Put the well being of your team above your desire to win. Encourage your players to do their best, and support them in their soccer journey.
- Communicate with the team managers, players, and parents in a timely manner.
- Set the example for good sportsmanship by refraining from yelling at players and referees during games and practices.
- Listen to questions and concerns, and respond with dignity and respect.
- Correct players firmly but respectfully. Do not demean or put them down.