

## **WCSSF CODE OF CONDUCT for Parents, Relatives or Spectators**

As parents, relatives, or spectators of a registered player within the West Central Suburban Soccer Federation ("WCSSF"), it is important to be a good role model at games in which your son/daughter/relative/friend is a participant. Therefore, any parent, relative or spectator at any game or practice within the WCSSF is expected to uphold and abide by certain standards.

### **All Parents, Relatives or Spectators WILL:**

- encourage fair play.
- cheer in a positive manner for all players, regardless of which team they represent.
- cheer at all games within the spirit of fair play and shall do their best to cheer the effort regardless of the outcome. They will be mindful in "lopsided" games where cheering their own "winning" team might be misunderstood.
- only give positive feedback to players.
- show respect for the game officials by not criticizing them or undermining their authority in the eyes of the players.
- display good sportsmanship as a positive example for the players.
- allow the coaches to do the coaching.
- agree to accept the decisions of the coaches, referees, and administrators with respect and good grace. (Coaches contribute many hours of their time to your children. They deserve your congratulations when the team wins and your encouragement when the team doesn't.)
- be generous when the team wins, and graceful when the team loses.
- conduct themselves with honor and dignity.
- communicate any concerns to the coach at the appropriate time (recommended 24-hour cool off period) away from the playing location and players.
- always remain at least two yards from the playing field so the young players have room to play and enjoy the game.

Parents, Relatives, or Spectators will ...

- **NOT** use foul language or obscene gestures at a game or practice site.
- **NOT** use gestures or comments that express disagreement with referee decisions.
- **NOT** consume alcoholic beverages on the field location at practices or games.
- **NOT** criticize the performance of their child/relative/friend or his/her teammates.
- **NOT** criticize the opponents of the team.
- **NOT** embarrass any child/relative/friend by their behavior.
- **NOT** engage in physical or verbal confrontations with spectators, officials, coaches, administrators, or other players.
- **NOT** encourage, or accept someone else's encouragement of, the intentional injury, of any player.
- **NOT** criticize the referee openly or directly ... during or after games. Any criticism shall be done in writing to the club or the WCSSF, not verbally.

- **NOT** confront a coach at, during, or immediately after a game, and recognize that if you have a question or concern that you may contact the club or WCSSF at a later time.
- **NOT** confront a Referee at, during, or immediately after a game, and recognize that if you have a question or concern that you may contact the coach, club or WCSSF at a later time.

Furthermore, please understand that you not only represent your player, but also the team, the club, the league, and the game of soccer. Therefore, you must conduct yourself accordingly.

The Coach and the other parents / relatives of the team will hold you accountable for your actions and behavior. Also, the Administration at the WCSSF, the club and its appointed disciplinary committee will monitor behaviors and will take appropriate action to uphold the WCSSF's Code of Conduct.

Parents, Relatives and Spectators will be held accountable to the WCSSF and Indiana Soccer disciplinary standards and are subject to ejection and suspension by the WCSSF, state association, club or the team. Any improper behavior at a match may result in a parent, relative or spectator being asked to leave the field by the referee, a club official, or a representation of the WCSSF. At that time, the WCSSF can, and will, if necessary, suspend any individual's privilege to watch their child play should a parent, relative or spectator behaves in a manner that is rude or otherwise offensive.