

TOMPKINS
COUNTY
SOCCER



FALL
LEAGUE

CODE OF CONDUCT

Last revision: 31 May 2006 (L. Baird)

The Tompkins County Soccer - Fall League is based on the objective of providing youth in the Tompkins County and surrounding area with the opportunity to acquire and develop soccer skills through a higher level of competition than is provided by municipal recreation soccer programs. These skills, as well as the individual growth of players, must be nurtured in an environment which is free of confrontation, poor sportsmanship, and verbal and physical abuse among spectators, game participants and game officials.

Not only is this type of behavior contrary to the spirit of the game and examples we are trying to set for the participating youth, it also creates situations which could place TCS-FL in bad standing with New York State West Youth Soccer Association, thereby threatening the development of area soccer players.

While the TCS-FL does not dictate the internal administrative rules and regulations of member teams, it must provide the framework for governing undesirable behavior within which member teams must administer themselves.

Players are expected to perform in a manner consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship. Coaches and spectators should act in a manner which reinforces this concept. While aggressive play should not be discouraged, physical and/or verbal abuse of opponents will not be allowed. Verbal or gesticulatory dissent with referee's decisions will not be tolerated.

If carded, a player is expected to observe the presentation of the card without comment, and the player should be determined not to repeat the behavior which elicited the card. Coaches, parents and spectators must also show respect in disagreeing with referees' decisions. While one cannot expect all referee calls to be accepted without reservation, loud or abusive dissent is unwarranted and reprehensible.

Under no circumstances should a player, parent or spectator come onto the field unless invited by the referee. The same level of constraint should be observed after the game is over. Parents and spectators should be made aware that the coach is responsible for their actions on the sideline. In circumstances where spectator behavior warrants it, a game may be suspended until the spectator behavior improves, or abandoned if need be. The same actions hold true in the case of poor behavior on the part of the Coach, Assistant Coach, or Manager of a team. In the case of a team official being the cause of a suspended or abandoned match the team official will be suspended from future games for their misbehavior.

Member teams will ensure that the approach to playing the game, which is discussed above, is fully disseminated and understood throughout their teams. Member teams will also establish internal procedures, consistent with each team's (or club's) regulatory process, which provide for suitable controls and punishment for proscribed behavior. Affiliated soccer clubs should have a policy in place for restricting the ability of abusive parents to attend soccer matches.

Each team must also ensure that, as warranted by specific events, swift and appropriate action is taken to ensure that members of its team do not repeat their mistakes. Repetition of occurrences of misconduct which shows a disregard for these guidelines could lead to long term penalties.

printed name below

signature below

Team Name: _____

Coach: _____

Asst Coach: _____

Asst Coach: _____

Manager: _____
