



United Parishes Soccer Club

Team Policies

Coaching Philosophy: I am determined to provide our young athletes a positive experience playing soccer, which fosters a love for the sport, and to help players learn important “life lessons” by developing positive character traits.

My first goal of coaching is to develop a competitive spirit, improve their individual soccer skills, athletic fitness, and general understanding of the game of soccer.

My second goal is to coach character through the sport of soccer by developing moral characteristics in our youth such as being: respectful, responsible, caring; honest, fair, and a good citizen.

I have three expectations of my players:

- that they give their best effort every time
- continue to learn and improve
- not let mistakes or the fear of making mistakes stop them

Players that learn these principles will be successful on the field and in life.

Parents are an important part of the team and share in the responsibility by:

- Helping your child arrive to practice and games on time and in proper uniform.
- Engaging in No-Directions Cheering. Limiting comments during the game to encouraging children on both teams.
- Refrain from criticizing coaches or arguing with officials in front of children.
- Model the behaviors you want to see on the sidelines by taking a: “that’s not the way we do things here on this team” approach, regardless of what the other team is doing. Always remember our children are watching.
- Help your child view a tough opponent as a gift, which forces us to perform to the best of our ability and cope with adversity.
- Help children avoid criticizing the failings of others and redirect their thoughts to what they can do to improve their own performance and help the team.
- Believe that coaches and referees are attempting to do their best.



United Parishes Soccer Club

Code of Conduct for Coaches

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and the spectators on their side of the field, specifically as it relates to the referee, coaches, players and spectators on the other team.

- **Verbal and/or physical abuse shall not be tolerated.**
- **Alcohol and smoking at youth events is prohibited.**

As a Coach in the United Parishes Soccer Club, I agree to:

- Believe that my role as a coach is to contribute to the physical and athletic growth of the player and to develop positive character traits through soccer.
- Believe that athletes come first, winning second.
- Begin the game with a prayer.
- Remember that players participate to have fun and not just to win.
- Never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning.
- Be reasonable in my demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Honor the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same.
- Ensure that players have a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Exceed league requirements for playing time for all players.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age, maturity and ability of all players.
- Lead by example.
- Display control, respect, and professionalism and encourage my players to do the same. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to practice or play.
- Keep up to date with the latest practices & principles of coaching youth athletes.
- Endeavor to be a good instructor and a positive role model for my players.
- Believe that referees are attempting to do their best.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Understand that any physical contact with a player should be appropriate to soccer situations and necessary for the player's development.



United Parishes Soccer Club

Code of Conduct for Parents

As a parent of a player in the United Parishes Soccer Club, I agree to:

- Remember that children participate in sport for their own enjoyment, not mine.
- Focus on the child's effort and improvements rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children to always play according to the rules and settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Lead by example.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Be responsible for the conduct of my guests.
- Send my child ready to play, arriving on time, and dressed in proper uniform.
- Remember that practices are as important as games. If I know my child is unable to attend a practice or game, then I will give the coach advance notice to enable proper planning.
- Support all efforts to condemn verbal and physical abuse at all soccer activities.
- Refrain from coaching from the sidelines. Cheer without giving commands.
- Refrain from criticizing coaches, referees, or opponents during games in the presence of my child or other children. Only provide constructive criticism privately to my coach after the game or at the next practice.
- Believe that referees are attempting to do their best.
- Respect the decisions of officials and teach players to do the same.
- Learn the rules of the game and Club policies.
- Refrain from speaking to officials, unless it is to say thank you after the game.
- Speak to the coach after the game or at the next practice, if I have questions or concerns with the referees.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Report to the coach all injuries, special medical conditions or extenuating circumstances (such as lack of sleep or family crisis) that may affect the player.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. The coaches and board members are volunteers --giving of personal time to provide a recreational activity for my child. They are providing a valuable community service, often without reward other than their personal satisfaction. Without them my child could not participate.



United Parishes Soccer Club

Code of Conduct for Players

As a player of the United Parishes Soccer Club, I agree to:

- Always give my best effort and work equally hard for my team and myself.
- Continue to learn and improve.
- Not be afraid of making a mistake.
- Cooperate with my coach, teammates and opponents.
- Participate for my own enjoyment, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Remember that practices are just as important as games and my attendance helps my team. I will notify my coach in advance if I must miss a practice or game.
- Play by the rules.
- Believe that referees are attempting to do their best too.
- Never argue with the referees. If I disagree I will speak to my coach.
- Control my temper and maintain control over my emotions. I will avoid negative comments and/or gestures that purposely distract or annoy my opponents.
- Be a good sport; applaud all good plays made by my team or the opposition.
- Treat people as I like to be treated. I will not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor or my teammates.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Play for the fun of soccer!



Athlete's Character Code

Moral Value	Actions in Life	Actions in Sport
Be Respectful	Be respectful of yourself Be respectful of other people. Be respectful of other's property. Be respectful of the environment.	Honor the game by respecting the rules and traditions of soccer. Be respectful of your opponents. Be respectful of officials. Be respectful in victory & defeat.
Be Responsible	Fulfill your obligations. Be dependable. Be in Control of Yourself. Be persistent.	Always give your best effort. Arrive on time to practice & games. Be self-disciplined. Cooperate with your teammates.
Be Caring	Have compassion and empathy. Be forgiving. Be generous and kind. Avoid being selfish and mean.	Help your teammates play better. Support teammates in trouble. Be quick to praise, slow to criticize Play for the team, not yourself. Be safe.
Be Honest	Be truthful and forthright. Act with integrity. Be trustworthy. Be courageous.	Play by the spirit of the rules. Admit to your own mistakes. Be loyal to the team.
Be Fair	Follow the Golden Rule. Be tolerant of others. Be willing to share. Avoid taking advantage of others.	Treat others as you wish to be treated. Be fair to all players. Give other players an opportunity. Play to win within the rules.
Be A Good citizen	Obey the laws and rules. Be educated and stay informed. Contribute to the community. Protect others.	Be a good role model. Strive for excellence. Give back to the sport. Cheer for your teammates. Clean-up after yourself.

