

*Humboldt & District Soccer Association Inc.
Code of Conduct for Players, Coaches & Parents
Spring - 2009*

The Humboldt & District Soccer Association believes in fair play for all players. Each and every player deserves, and will be offered equal opportunity to demonstrate their abilities, skills, as well as knowledge of the Game of Soccer.

The HDSA makes the choice to encourage, not discourage our Players. We understand that respect is earned, not demanded.

Our Soccer Association prides ourselves on having fun while learning together, whether we are players, coaches or even as supportive parents.

The HDSA will not tolerate the following from Coaches, Players or Parents:

- *Disrespect towards Players, Coaches, Officials or Parents.*
- *Use of profane language from anyone involved with the team.*
- *Discrimination against gender, race, religion, physical appearance, athleticism, or social/economic status.*

Expectations Of Coaches:

As a coach you are considered a role model for the players, as well as a representative of the Humboldt & District Soccer Association. As such, you are required to conduct yourself in a responsible manner that promotes a positive and supportive atmosphere at all times.

Coaching Duties Include:

- To possess the required Coaching Certificate for each age category.
- Instructing players through practice sessions, as well as in game situations.
- Provide positive feedback to players.
- Positive Coaches = Positive Players!
- To recognize areas that need improvement and instruct the correct way to develop those necessary skills.
- Create an equal opportunity for every player to demonstrate their skills, abilities and knowledge of the game.
- Correctly assess each player's specific role on the team and help each to believe their contribution to the team is valued.
- To encourage each player, not to discourage. As RESPECT is earned, not demanded.
- Strive to help each player develop new skills, as well as honing existing abilities.
- To support the players as they improve their skills regardless of ability level. Any improvement is a team success and should be encouraged as such.
- To plant the seed creating desire inside each player to strive for & achieve their own personal best.

Expectations of Players:

Humboldt & District Soccer Association expects players to conduct themselves in a respectful manner, as they are representatives of our Soccer Club. Any one player's actions may reflect negatively on our Club. Therefore swearing, disrespect, or other poor conduct may result in dismissal from the team.

- Players are expected to be *respectful to Coaches, Officials, Teammates and Opponents*.
- HDSA expects all players to conduct themselves with *pride* but not arrogance. *Respect* is chosen as our *key aspect towards success* in all areas of the game.
- Players are required to *attend all practices, games & tournaments* unless otherwise pre-arranged with Coaches. Please note that practice sessions are essential in developing a functional team, allowing the team to successfully perform together. As result, if players do not attend practices, their playing time will be limited.
- Every player must make a *commitment to their team*. A *successful team* is made of *dedicated athletes* who can rely on each other for *support both on and off the field*.
- Players should contribute their *full effort* to each practice and game. It is difficult for the Coach to determine individual skill development if players choose not to put their best foot forward.
- Players are expected to keep a *positive attitude* and show *good sportsmanship* in all areas of play.
- Players are to *listen to the guidance* of their Coaches and work on the necessary areas they are instructed to do so.
- Players should *show willingness* to respond to coaching instructions, suggestions and ideas.

Expectations of Parents:

- Parents are to be supportive of their child and team members to provide *positive encouragement* for the entire team.
- HDSA expects not only our players, but our parents to also *conduct themselves in a respectful and positive manner* as they are representatives of our Club as well.
- As being representatives of our Soccer Association the use of profane language, disrespect, or other poor conduct will not be permitted. Parents are expected to be *respectful of Coaches, Officials, all players, as well as other parents.*
- Parents are expected to *respect the Coaches' decisions.*
- Parents who wish to speak to the Coaches should refrain from approaching them during practice or game time. In addition, please refrain from voicing any concerns directly in front of the team.
- Parents who may have grievances should first approach the team manager. If needed, the next motion would be to submit a formal letter to the HDSA Executive. At this time, the Board will work on a successful solution for both sides to have the matter resolved in a respectful manner.
- As a parent, please be sure your child comes prepared with the proper equipment, which includes shin pads, soccer socks and soccer shoes.
- *Parental support and encouragement* is always *greatly appreciated.* So please feel free to join us at our games as a spectator. It's great to *keep up the cheering support, whether the team is winning or losing.*
- *Positive parents = positive players.*
- HDSA asks parents to make sure players are on time for both practices and games.
- Parents may be asked to help out in some game/tournament situations. We pride ourselves on the *volunteer support* that allows our Soccer Association to run each year. Please remember all our Coaches and Executive Members are dedicated volunteers and should be shown respect as well as appreciation for their efforts.