

Code of Conduct Agreement for Players, Coaches, Parents & Spectators

Southwest District – Connecticut Junior Soccer Association

The CJSA-SWD will not tolerate unruly behavior by its players, coaches, managers and spectators at games. Referees have complete power to officiate and oversee games under the conditions set forth by SWD-CJSA and the USSF. Participants and spectators are not permitted to use foul language, dispute calls or in any way confront referees, lines officials, coaches, managers or players of either team. Spectator involvement in a match is limited to cheering the teams positively, and not demeaning anyone in the process. **The following rules must be followed:**

- 1. Coaching from the sidelines** is the job of each team's coaching staff. Parents must refrain from instructing players on the field while the match is underway.
- 2. Entering the field of play:** No one is permitted to enter the field of play unless waved on to the field by the referee. This includes coaches, managers, parents, spectators and substitute players.
- 3. Use of foul language and unruly behavior:** If for any reason unruly behavior or foul language is observed on or off the field, the referee has the right to stop the game until the individuals responsible calm down or leave the field. The referee is in charge of the game and will have the final say in how a match is officiated. Both coaches are expected to take appropriate action and are responsible for keeping their fans (parents, friends, etc) under control. If the unruly individual is not associated with either team, then it will be the home team's responsibility to call local authorities to have this individual removed from the premises.
- 4. Approaching anyone aggressively** associated with the match (player, coach, manager, referee and/or spectator from either team) is grounds for removal from the playing field.
- 5. Distance from the sideline:** Spectators and reserve players must stay at least 5 feet from the sidelines while the match is under way. Substitutes as well as coaches and managers listed on the roster are permitted in this space.
- 6. Location of spectators:** Spectators are not allowed behind either goal or on the bench side of the field. Only coaches and managers (maximum of 4) and players are allowed at the bench. Spectators are restricted to the opposite side of the field from the bench.

If a referee witnesses violations of any of these rules, he has the right to stop the game until the condition is corrected. The referee will instruct both coaches to resolve the condition. It is the coach's responsibility – not the referee's - to immediately correct the condition. If the condition cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the referee, the referee has the responsibility to end the game and file a report with the SWDistrict. Coaches are expected to support the referee's call and will be subjected to disciplinary action from the SWD-CJSA Disciplinary Board if they do not.

Disputes: If anyone has a dispute with a referee, line official, coach, manager, player, parent or spectator, he may submit a written complaint to his own Club. If it merits further attention, each Club should submit the complaint to the appropriate League Director or, where it concerns referees, to the District Referee Administrator for further assessment. If the complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, it may be forwarded to the SWD Vice President for final review.

Disciplinary Action: Disciplinary action can range from suspension to expulsion of the parties responsible: an entire team or player, coach, manager, referee as well as spectators. If an individual does not abide by the punishment set forth by the SWD-SJSA Disciplinary Committee, the child of this parent is subject to revocation of his or her player pass. A player without a valid player pass is not allowed to participate in any CJSA sanctioned games or scrimmages. If the offending party is a spectator without a child playing, they will be banned from the field of play. If they attempt to be present at the match, the match will be stopped until they have departed the facility. If they refuse to leave, the game will be end as a forfeit.

It is the intent of the SWD-CJSA to promote a positive and enthusiastic environment for all referees, players, coaches, managers and spectators. I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it.

Parent:

Player:

Signed: _____

Print: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____