

<p>Category: Code of Conduct Section: Behavior Policy Name: Unsportsmanlike Actions and Discipline Effective date: June 2016</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Statement • Responsibilities • Definitions (if needed) • Policy History
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Policy Statement

The Baldwin Whitehall Soccer Association expects players, coaches, spectators and referees to follow and uphold good sportsmanship and ethical behavior. Intentional or unintentional actions which are unethical or intended to demean, embarrass, intimidate or injure opposing contestants, teams, spectators and referees are considered unsportsmanlike and will not be tolerated. (From PIAA bylaws found [Here](#))

Any coach, player, spectator, or official found to have acted in an unsportsmanlike manner, as defined by this policy, may be subject to dismissal from participation in games, practices, tournament play, or other events by the President of the Baldwin Whitehall Soccer association.

While sporting behavior is expected and understood when seen, this policy uses examples to define what is believed to be unsporting behavior. These examples should not be considered to be a comprehensive identification of unsportsmanlike behavior.

Examples of Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Any Coach, Player, Referee, or Spectators who uses:

- Profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language immediately prior to, during, and after the game.
- Race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability to bait, intimidate, or denigrate an opponent.

Coaches who:

- Enter the field of play without being beckoned by the official.
- Participate in misconduct as described by PA West or U.S. Youth Soccer including using ineligible players or participating in a game without valid player/coach passes.
- Fail to control their temper immediately prior to, during, and after the game.
- Teach players to win through illegitimate means; striving to win at any cost is distinctly unethical.
- Fail to maintain control of their team.
- Knowingly seek to embarrass an opponent or official.
- Criticize referees on the field, or via other means such as social media, to athletes or spectators rather than through the appropriate review process.
- Promote unfounded rumors of questionable practices by opponents.

Players who:

- Engage in conduct intended to injure opponents or referees.
- Provoke opponents, referees, or spectators to engage in inappropriate conduct.

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Yellow and red card discipline is handled through PA West rules that deny play to a player or coach based on the number and severity of offenses.

Referees who fail to:

- Be prepared through preparation in the rules.
- Have a neat, distinctive, and approved uniform.
- Control temper in interactions with players, coaches, spectators, and other referees.
- Explain their interpretation of the rules when asked by head coach. (explain the call)

Spectators who:

- Attempt to provoke, intimidate, and/or berate coaches, referees, athletes, and/or other spectators.
- Interfere with, or attempts to interfere with, any contest including entering the field of play when not beckoned by the official or coach.
- Engage in any of the behaviors identified herein.

Responsibilities

Coaches, Players, Spectators, and Referees:

- Maintain respect for themselves, other teams, and referees.
- Play, coach, support, and officiate in an ethical manner.
- Adhere to any sportsmanship mandates as described by PA West or U.S. Youth Soccer.
- Comply with any disciplinary actions levied by BWSA President.
- May appeal any disciplinary actions levied by BWSA President to the Hearing Panel.

BWSA President

- Initiate any disciplinary action needed based on:
 - Past experience
 - Consultation with people knowledgeable of the actions that require discipline.
 - Consultation with other BWSA Board members
 - Other discipline imposed by PA West or U.S. Youth Soccer.

Hearing Panel

- Appointed by the President and approved by the Board to manage the appeal of any discipline levied by the President.
- Gather and review information to uphold, change, or dismiss any discipline in a manner that provides equitable presentation of any actions that led to the discipline.

Policy History

Drafted and approved XX/XX/XXXX