

## **Parent Guidelines**

**The overall goal of a soccer season is to support all children as they learn and practice the game.**

### **Rec Level**

Parents should follow these guidelines:

- Emphasize the fun of the game
- Reinforce basic soccer fundamentals taught by coaches
- Focus on good sportsmanship and developing player self-confidence
- Support all children involved, no matter their level of skill or mastery
- Be on time to practices and games
- Take any concerns or problems to coaches in a timely and reasonable manner
- Encourage your son or daughter to do their best and give the team their best efforts

### **Rec Plus Level**

Parents should follow these guidelines:

- Emphasize the fun of the game
- Reinforce basic soccer fundamentals taught by coaches
- Continue the focus on good sportsmanship and developing player self-confidence
- Be on time to practices and games
- Respect a child who says s/he no longer wishes to play
- Take any concerns or problems to coaches in a timely and reasonable manner
- Encourage your son or daughter to do their best and give the team their best efforts

### **Competitive Level**

Parents should follow these guidelines:

#### **U9 through U12**

- Emphasize the fun of the game while helping children accept winning and losing
- Reinforce basic soccer fundamentals taught by coaches
- Continue the focus on good sportsmanship and developing player self-confidence
- Trust a coach's assessment of your child's skills
- Be on time to practices and games
- Respect a child who says s/he no longer wishes to play
- Take any concerns or problems to coaches in a timely and reasonable manner
- Cheer for each member of your child's team
- Refrain from negative comments about players on your child's team or opposing teams
- Understand that the game has become more competitive and may include more physical play
- Encourage your son or daughter to do their best and give the team their best efforts

## **U13 and above**

Note: At this level, players are placed on teams based on evaluations.

- Continue emphasis on the fun of the game, but realize the significance of wins/losses
- Reinforce basic soccer fundamentals taught by coaches
- Continue the focus on good sportsmanship and developing player self-confidence
- Trust a coach's assessment of your child's skills and respect coaching decisions
- Be on time to practices and games
- Take any concerns or problems to coaches in a timely and reasonable manner
- Cheer for each member of your child's team
- Refrain from negative comments about players on your child's team or opposing teams
- Understand that the game has become more competitive and may include more physical play
- Encourage your son or daughter to do their best and give the team their best efforts

## **Unsportsmanlike Behavior**

Unsportsmanlike behavior is not tolerated on or off the field. To support that goal, players, coaches, support staff, and spectators must follow these guidelines:

- Know and understand the laws of the game
- Educate players on the technical/tactical/physical demands of the game
- Have zero tolerance for fighting or heckling, and ask those exhibiting such behavior to leave
- Be a positive role model. Set the standard for sportsmanship with the opponents, referees, and spectators
- Encourage moral and social responsibility
- Encourage players to have fun and keep a positive attitude about winning and losing
- Show pride and support for your club, state, and country, but be respectful of other customs and traditions.

-adapted from the tournament rules of the Schwan's USA Cup as found in the 2007 Weekend Tournament Program