



# Coaches Code of Conduct

In order to ensure that the principles of sportsmanship, fair play, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators characterize the competition promoted by ERVYSL, the following Code of Conduct has been established:

## **Coaches:**

The coach's role is one of teaching soccer skills and sportsmanship to the players. The coach is responsible for communicating practice and game times to the players and parents. The coach is also responsible for monitoring the behavior of the players and parents during practice and games. All coaches within the soccer program will promote good sportsmanship among players, foster team camaraderie, and help participants have fun while teaching technical skills of soccer, at an age appropriate level. Unsportsmanlike conduct of coaches will not be tolerated by the program. Such unsportsmanlike conduct includes berating or making unkind comments to a player, coach or referee and wilful failure to follow program rules.

Each coach agrees to the Code of Conduct, certifies that he/she has read ERVYSL rules and will abide by them and acknowledge that coaching is a privilege and not a right. In addition, each coach will ensure that his/her conduct sets a good example for team members and spectators.

To meet these responsibilities, the Coach is expected to:

- Know the official Laws of the Game of soccer, the rules of CalNorth/US Club, and the rules of ERVYSL, and abide by them.
- Instruct player and parents in the rules and motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
- Respect the game officials at all times. Refrain from questioning their decisions or challenging their authority. Coaches will bring any concerns regarding officiating to the Referee Coordinator as soon AFTER their game as reasonably possible.
- Ensure that fans of his or her team exhibit sportsmanship and maturity at all times and assist league and game official in maintaining control of spectators during games.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team before, during, and after the game.
- Take appropriate steps to minimize scoring in runaway games. (Up by 5 or more goals. Examples would be to change positions of players, require players to complete x # of passes before taking shots on goal, playing down a player).

- Ensure that players receive significant playing experience during games (no less than half the game).
- Do not conduct practices outside of your designated practice time and location without prior permission from the Board.

Teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat. Maintain control of his/her emotions and avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.

Teach and practice good sportsmanship and fair play by personally demonstrating a commitment to these virtues. Promote the concept that soccer is merely a game, and that players and coaches on other teams are opponents but not enemies. Winning is NOT the goal, having FUN is the goal. Promote the concept that winning is defined by an individual player gaining personal growth and improvement over the season while having fun, not by the score of any game.

Violations of this Code of Conduct will result in:

First Offense: Written warning to the coach

Second Offense: One week suspension from coaching duties (practices and games)

Third Offense: Suspension of Coaching Duties for remainder of the season.

\*\* In the event of a serious violation of the Code of Conduct, ERVYSL may skip any of the above steps.

I have read and understand what is expected of me as a coach and I will follow these guidelines to the best of my abilities.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_