



United Valley Soccer Association

Code of Conduct and Ethics for Coaches



The position of coach or leader of any youth group is an important and serious responsibility. All the children look up to the coach and respect his position. His behavior is constantly under observation by them and they will strive to imitate his actions. The coach's opinion and behavior during the game will carry more weight than anyone else, even parents.

The following **Code of Conduct and Ethics** is offered here to exemplify the ideal UVSA coach.

I WILL:

Know and abide by the laws and rules of the game and teach them to my players. Read the SAY rulebook, UVSA coaches' handbook, and attend a coaching and/or referee clinic to enhance knowledge of the game.

Ensure that each practice and game is safe, fair and fun.

Treat the referee with respect, no matter what the call. Referees attend an eight-hour course and pass a 100-question test before they can become a SAY referee. Allow for the fact that they are human and may make mistakes.

Coach and set an example of skillful, honest, and sportsmanlike soccer. Stress playing hard over winning itself. Require all players and parents to behave in the same manner. The coach is responsible for the conduct of the players and parents.

Maintain a climate of enjoyment and refrain from profanity or vulgar language. Discourage players and parents from making negative remarks and/or harassing players, referees and spectators.

Maximize praise and minimize criticisms. Make corrections slowly and calmly in a manner tailored to the individual. Start with a positive and end with a positive.

Coach talented and non-talented players with equal vigor. Allow players more than their required-minimum playing time.

Minimize coaching from the sidelines during games. Screaming during the game accomplishes nothing. Instead, call the player to you and give instruction or wait until the next substitution time and provide instruction off the field.

Refrain from using drug, alcohol and tobacco products at all UVSA sponsored events.

I hereby pledge to follow this Code of Conduct and Ethics and understand that I may be removed from my coaching position if I fail to do so.

SIGNATURE

DATE