

# Coaching Agreement 2013-2014 Seasons

This is a friendly agreement as a **RECREATIONAL** Soccer coach for the Saint Joseph Youth Soccer Association. This agreement is to focus on the success of ALL children playing soccer through the association.

The Board of Directors of Missouri Youth Soccer Association and the leaders of the affiliated leagues are concerned about the conduct of all coaches and referees during games at all levels, from recreational to premier to ODP. We want to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game should be friendly and unifying – a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators. We jointly expect all coaches to conform to MYSA code of conduct.

- **WE ARE HERE FOR THE KIDS – FUN IS THE NAME OF THE GAME.**
- Bingo dates are assigned to each team to help keep this facility running and functioning. **PLEASE PARTICIPATE**
- Sign up for pictures at your age division coaches meeting.
- Communicate with your team. Hand out your phone number and email. Hand out the coordinators name and number.
- Stay connected through out the season(s)
- Practice once a week for the recreational team.
- **PLEASE SHARE THE FIELDS DURING PRACTICE – you do not need goals to teach soccer**
- If you need to **cancel/reschedule** a game please clear it through your coordinator and a **48 hour** notification is necessary to cancel the referees. **THIS IS A MUST.** We do not cancel because the “stars” are going to miss your game. If you have enough to play please keep the schedule.
- Before, during and after the game please be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee(s).
- During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
- During the game, **you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents and spectators of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.** (If you need assistants please contact your Coordinator)
- Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team.
- During the game, do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently **after the game.**
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to your coordinator. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.

## **We want to stress two additional points for our soccer future:**

Referees – especially young and inexperienced ones – are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and inciting-or even accepting-your own players’ overly aggressive behavior.

Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players’ enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. **When you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you’re overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice.**

Think about what you’re doing during a game! Uphold the Spirit of the Game! If you follow the expectations described above, the spirit of the game will be alive and well in Missouri and will grow, along with the enjoyment of soccer for all.

Coaches who do not follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed.

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Coach’s signature

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Date