

PYSL FAIR PLAY POLICY

Issue:

The Placer Youth Soccer League (PYSL) has an interest in controlling unacceptable behavior of spectators, coaches, players and referees at league practices, games and tournaments. It is the opinion of the board members that inappropriate behavior is not a rampant condition throughout the clubs but does occur on a weekly basis as evidenced by the weekly game reports. This type of unacceptable conduct takes away from the enjoyment of the game by the players and departs from the desired philosophy of fair play and good competition. It negatively impacts, to a greater extent, our youth referees. Conduct of this type renders the league's soccer program unable to function as a positive contributor to all participants of the league (players, coaches, parents and referees) and hinders our standing relationship with the cities and communities working to support youth soccer.

Objective:

The objective of this policy is to set a framework where behavior of spectators, coaches, players and referees can be judged against an acceptable level and administrative action can be applied when necessary. Additionally, a process of notification, hearing and discipline will be determined.

References:

- 1) Ten Commandments For Coaches
- 2) Ten Commandments For Parents
- 3) Ten Commandments For Players
- 4) USSF Referee Administrative Handbook
- 5) Rocklin Youth Soccer Club draft policy on zero tolerance
- 6) BAYS zero tolerance policy
- 7) Roseville Parks and Recreation Code of Ethics

Policy:

A. The coach of any team is responsible for the behavior of their players and parents as well as themselves. Each coach is expected to advise their players and parents of the guiding goals listed in the Coaching section of the Team Manual. No coach, player or spectator shall openly and loudly criticize another spectator, coach, player or referee. No coach, player or spectator shall physically abuse or assault anyone at the field. It is expected that attendees at games provide positive reinforcement comments only. Coaches and players may inquire about calls made by the referee, prior to the game, at the midgame break and at the end of the match but only in the presence of the coach. Coaches, spectators and players shall not follow the referee to the parking lot or next field in a harassing manner.

B. Players shall not "trash talk". Players must participate and behave in a sportsmanship like manner during the post game handshake. Boasting, taunting, denouncing or other similar acts directed at the opponents is not acceptable.

C. Referees shall conduct themselves in an acceptable manner so as to be fair to both teams. The referee shall not criticize any player, imply an unfavorable attitude because of gender or race or enter into sideline conversations with coaches, players or spectators during the game. The referee shall be dressed in proper uniform, jersey tucked into the shorts and display the appropriate badge on the uniform. The referee shall offer the game card to either coach, upon request, at the completion of the game for comments. The referee shall know the rules and apply them fairly.

D. Another aspect of Fair Play is good sportsmanship. Referees may compliment players on good plays and spectators may compliment opponents on good play. If a player is injured during play, the team in control of the ball can play the ball out of bounds so that attention may be given to the injured player. Scores should be kept to a maximum of six point differential. Alternatives to continued scoring are; to reduce the number of players on the field, move players to other positions, score on "headers" only or pass by "one touch".

Disciplinary Measures:

Violations of this policy shall be noted on the game card by the coaches or referees and subsequently reported to the club board by the club referee coordinator.

Coaches who violate paragraph A of this policy may be dismissed from the game if directed by the referee. Coaches who allow their players to violate paragraph B of this policy or who violate paragraph D of this policy may be administratively disciplined by their club board.

Players who violate paragraph A or B of this policy may be sent off from the game by the referee. In each case of an ejection, the resulting discipline will be addressed by the PYSL PAD committee.

Spectators who violate this policy may be requested to leave the area of the field of play as directed by the coach and if requested to leave, shall remain away from the playing field for the duration of the match. Spectators who violate this policy may be subject to a hearing by the club or league PAD. A parent who is requested to leave the game area may choose to withdraw their child from the game.

Referees who violate this policy shall be subject to USSF, league or club discipline. Keeping in mind that only USSF can revoke a

referees certification. The club referee assignor may use discretion when assigning a referee who is in violation of this policy. A club may, at its' discretion, hold a hearing concerning the referee.

Appeals:

Coaches, players, spectators or referees may appeal the discipline measures given them by requesting a hearing from any administrative level of the CYSA organization. The one exception, is that ejections by referees are not appealable unless the later discipline exceeds the recommendations as listed in the CYSA team manual.