

Burleson Independent Soccer Association Code of Conduct for Coaches & Volunteers

This code of ethics has been developed to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional, ethical, and moral behavior from that which is detrimental to the development of the sport of soccer.

As a Coach representing BISA I agree to the following:

Responsibility to the Players:

1. I will never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with emphasis placed on the highest ideals and character traits.
2. I will instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. I will not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
4. I will not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players regardless of the situation.
5. I will not make demands on players' time as to interfere with academic goals and progress. Motivation for excellence should include academics as well as athletics.
6. I will never encourage players to violate NTSSA recruitment, eligibility, or guest player rules and policies.
7. I will under no circumstances authorize or encourage the use of medicinal or performance enhancing drugs. Players should be directed to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery. At no time should a player be put at risk by returning from injury prematurely or by being forced to play while injured.

Responsibility to the Laws of the Game:

1. I will be acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the laws of the game of soccer. I will also be responsible to ensure that my players understand the intent as well as the application of the laws.
2. I will adhere to the letter and spirit of the laws of the game.
3. I am responsible for my players' actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
4. I will strive constantly to teach good sporting behavior.

Responsibility to Officials:

1. I will always refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players. Officials must have the support of coaches, players, and spectators. Criticism of officials undermines their purpose in the game.
2. I will strive to develop a line of communication with officials, giving each an opportunity to better understand the problems relating to their specific area. This shall not be taken as encouragement to debate referee decisions during the match.
3. I agree to treat all officials with respect before, during, and after the game. Officials should be addressed as "Referee" or "Mr./Ms. Referee" and not by name. Professional respect should be mutual and there should be no demeaning dialogue or gesture between official, coach or player. Coaches must not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of play.
4. I agree to put in writing all comments regarding an official send to the BISA Referee Director or another BISA Board Member.

Game Day and Other Responsibilities:

1. A coach's behavior must be such as to bring credit to himself, his organization, and the sport of soccer. This is never more evident than on the day of the contest.
2. Rival coaches should meet prior to the game and exchange friendly or professional greetings. While the concept of rivalry is wholly embraced, it cannot take precedence over exemplary professional conduct.

3. During play, coaches have a responsibility to be as inconspicuous as possible. Coaches shall exhibit a respectful attitude towards players. The coach must confine him/herself to the coaching area. The attitude of the coach towards officials, spectators, opposing players and coaches should be controlled and undemonstrative.
4. It shall be unethical for a coach to have any verbal altercation with an opposing coach or bench during the game. Hostile physical contact with a player is considered highly unethical.
5. The coaches foremost post game responsibility is her/her team.
6. Coaches should use their influence on unfriendly spectators who demonstrate intimidating behavior towards officials and opposing teams.

I understand as a coach my actions/behavior is subject to the authority of or may be reviewed by BISA Appeals & Discipline (A&D) director/committee, the Metroplex League's A&D and/or NTSSA A&D and failure to abide by these commitments may result in disciplinary action, including probation or suspension of coaching and/or registration privileges, for significant or repetitive breaches of this agreement. If coaches permit, encourage, or condone performance which is not in the letter of spirit of the laws, they are derelict in their responsibility to their players, BISA and the sport worldwide.

Signature

Date