

COACH INFO

COACHES GUIDELINES

CONGRATULATIONS! You have volunteered and are selected for one of the most rewarding, as well as, frustrating jobs within the club. Not only will you have to be an expert on soccer and be able to teach soccer skills to your players but also you will have the patience of a saint and the diplomatic and organizational skills of an Ambassador. A thick skin and a cool disposition are also assets for the job. So GOOD LUCK and don't let anything get in your way of having fun.

1. TEAM ORGANIZATION

Besides the responsibility of coaching the children, there are several organizational requirements that should be addressed. These are support for coaching activities, team support in the league activities and team responsibilities for field maintenance. It is suggested that the coach assign specific responsibilities to the parents. The coach will receive a list of parents who have volunteered for assistant coaches and for team support and are available for assignment. The coach is to report to their commissioner any volunteer who, for no valid reason, refuses to assist the team. The commissioner, at his/her discretion, can suspend players from team play, until the team has received support from that volunteer parent. The suggested team organization is:

- A. Coach
- B. Assistant coach
- C. Team parent
- D. Field maintenance

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Coach

Responsible for all team activities both on and off the field: This includes the behavior of the children and parents associated with your team, the selection of assistant coaches, team parents and the various coordinators.

B. Assistant Coach

These individuals are available to assist the coach in conducting practices, during game play and in the general overall running of the team. If a coach has any difficulty obtaining an assistant coach, the Division Commissioner will attempt to locate an assistant.

C. Team Parent

Responsible for making phone calls, assigning parents to bring the refreshments to each game during half time and general overall

assistance to the coach in team matters.

D. Field Maintenance

Each team will be responsible for preparation of fields for play at least once during the season. This person will have the field prepared prior to the start of games on the day assigned.

3. TEAM GUIDELINES

A. FIFA Rules

Soccer rules are simple, but leave much to the interpretation of the referee. The FIFA Youth Soccer Rules apply to the HSC Intramural League play. The only exceptions to these rules are unlimited substitutions and the special rules for the Instructional Division. Those being:

- Normally off-sides will not be called unless some players are clearly goal hanging. Players of this age are not able to understand the concept of the offside rule.
- Foul throw-ins may be repeated so that the player learns the proper technique.

Referees will use a lenient interpretation of the handball foul, as children of this age have their hands flying all over during the game. Play will be stopped immediately when players hit the ground or jam together hopelessly and restarted with a drop ball. All teams should be allowed to play a game even if they have less than the minimum number of players. If a team is playing short then the other team will play with the same amount of players as the team playing short.

B. Play Participation

All children **MUST** play the equivalent of a half of a game each week. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS**. The ability of the player, the closeness of the game score, or the standing of the team are not excuses for violations of this rule. Complaints received of infractions will result in disciplinary action to the coach in the form of a game suspension. Further infractions will result in expulsion from the league.

C. Referee Assistance

All teams are responsible for providing one parent for line duty during the game if needed.

D. Start of Game Procedures

If your team is the Home Team for the first game of the day on a field, that team is responsible for setting up the nets and corner poles. The Home Team will supply the game ball.

E. End of Game Procedures

All the coaches are to have the children shake hands with the opposing team at the end of the game. This is to promote good sportsmanship. Part of our objective is for the child(ren) to learn it is nice to win but also how to lose gracefully. Also, if your team is the Home Team for the last game of the day on that field, your team is responsible for taking down the nets and corner poles and for their return to the equipment truck.

F. Referees

Only coaches and assistant coaches may discuss a problem with the referee with the referee and only during half time or after the game. If you have a complaint to lodge, then follow the procedures outlined in Section 4.

G. Practices

Practices should end after the games start or by dusk. It is not advisable to have practices in the dark. Any child(ren) not registered will/must not practice with any team.

H. Player Ratings

Three (3) weeks prior to the end of the season, Rating Sheets will be distributed to each coach. The coach and his/her assistants are to rate each child using the guidelines accompanying the Rating Sheets. These ratings are to be returned to the Division Commissioner prior to the last game.

I. Practice Balls

Each team will receive two (2) practice balls prior to the beginning of the season. These balls are to be returned to the Division Commissioners the last day of the season.

4. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Each coach shall have the right to discuss the action of referees, individual players, teams, or coach(es) with his respective Division Commissioner. This is to be done verbally within twenty-four (24) hours of the alleged infraction. Where such discussion leads to a protest, it is to be followed in writing no later than five (5) days from the alleged infraction.

If the grievance is not against a referee the Division Commissioner will carefully consider all of the facts and hand down his/her decision. If the grievance is against a referee the Commissioner and the Referee Coordinator jointly shall

decide. The final decision shall be in writing to the party(ies) involved, with a copy forwarded to the Director of Operations.

Referee grievances filed by the referee about the conduct of coaches or a team shall be directed to the Referee Coordinator for discussion and resolution by the Referee Coordinator and Division Commissioner.

Should the decision by the Division Commissioner be unacceptable to either party involved, he/she/they may request in writing, a review of the grievance by the Executive Board (passed on by the Director of Operations). The decision of the Board shall be final.

A. Parental Grievances

Parental grievance, questions or complaints shall be directed first through the appropriate coach and, if deemed necessary, in writing by the parent/guardian through the appropriate Division Commissioner.

B. Referee Grievances

Any grievance against a referee for negligence or misconduct (not judgment) shall be made to the Division Commissioner who will refer the grievance to the Referee Coordinator for final decision.