



Peachtree Corners Football Club

Coach's Code of Conduct

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 parents, coaches, referees and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.

- ◆ Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- ◆ Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
- ◆ During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of you 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 of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- ◆ Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them and you may need to be forceful and direct from yelling at players and the referee.
- ◆ During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team.
- ◆ During the game, do not address the referee. If you have an issue, discuss calmly and patiently after the game.
- ◆ Even though we do not have a written rule about running up the score, we do expect coaches to work off of a 'gentleman's rule'. Coaches should act in the best interest of the game and show good Sportsmanship. Scores should not get out of hand. If a team is dominating, below are suggestions for coaches to implement:
 - Have the team make certain number of passes before a shot can be made
 - Example, team must make 5 passes before a shot can be made
 - All players must touch the ball before a shot can be made
 - Player positions should be moved. If a player is a forward, move them to a defensive position
 - Rotate goalkeepers
 - Put in restrictions
 - Example, Players can only shoot from crosses
 - Players can only score from a head
 - Only shoot using their weaker foot
 - Adding or removing a player
 - Team that is struggling add a player
 - Team that is dominating remove a player
 - In worst case scenario when all the above is not working, mix the teams up. Put pinnie's on and scramble the team. This will allow a more equal balanced game.
- ◆ If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to your League. 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 stress two points:

- ◆ 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 and 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. If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you're overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee 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 PCFC and will grow, along with the enjoyment of all.

Coaches who don't follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed.

THANK YOU



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