

## **SYSL Spectator Policy and Code of Acceptable Conduct August 2021**

Suburban Youth Soccer League (SYSL) seeks to instill positive character-building traits in its youth participants through the demonstration of good sportsmanship, respect for others, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. We ask that parents, guests and other spectators attending SYSL sponsored matches and events adhere to this league policy regarding expected behavior in connection with league activities.

When attending SYSL sponsored events, I therefore agree to:

- Be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice, or other sporting event.
- Cheer on your team and share in their excitement. Unless you have anything positive to say or complement the opposing team, do not address their players, coaches or fans.
- Do not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as mocking, taunting, or using profane language or gestures, etc.
- Do not encourage any behaviors, actions, or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- Teach my child to play by the spirit of the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to aggression, hostility, or violence.
- Demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, orientation or ability.
- Do not ridicule, embarrass or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake, a bad play, or losing a game.
- Respect the officials and their authority during games and do not audibly question, discuss, or confront officials or referees at the game field.
- Leave the "coaching" to the coaches. Refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the official coaches of the team. Otherwise, I understand that my comments can interfere with the game and have a negative impact on the game.
- Inform coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- Escalate any issues with a coach, referee, official, or otherwise, to your club's league representative. (Do not contact the league or state office on your own.) Your club's league representative is well-versed on the protocols and league processes to assist with your concerns.

**IF YOU FAIL TO FOLLOW AND ADHERE TO** our league rules, guidelines, and policies, you may be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Verbal warning by game official, head coach, and/or member of league organization
- Written warning or reprimand
- Suspension from participation or attendance at team or league events
- Sanctions against your team or club