

Richardson Soccer Association



March 26, 2019

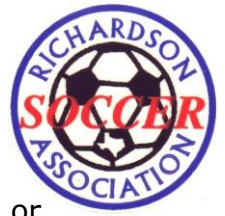
To: All Richardson Soccer Association (RSA) Coaches
From: Vice President for Rules and Discipline, and RSA League Commissioner
Subject: Code of Ethics for Coaches

Due to recent events during the Spring 2019 season, we saw a need to restate our Policy regarding the ongoing actions by RSA Coaches. We do appreciate very much your time and efforts on working with the Youth in RSA. This code of ethics has been developed by NTSSA and is required by Richardson Soccer Association for all Coaches. The term "Coach" shall include, but is not limited to Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers, and Team Trainers. To see a full list of Coaches responsibilities please visit the coach's page of the RSA website: <http://www.richardsonsoccer.org/coaches.php>

The purpose of this policy is to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional, ethical, and moral behavior, from behavior that is detrimental to the sport of Soccer. Also, it does not want to detract from you and your players to have fun at practices and especially Games.

1. Coaches must 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. Coaches will instruct players to play within the written FIFA, USSF, NTSSA and RSA laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. Coaches will not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players or parents regardless of the situation. They will address issues as soon as possible with the players and or parents.
4. Coaches must not get into verbal or physical altercations with referees, opponents (coaches, parents or players) or their own coaching staff, parents or players due to disagreements at the soccer fields. Coaches can file a formal or non-formal complaint with the RSA League Commissioner or RSA VP for Rules and Discipline and they will take steps to hear your grievance.
5. Coaches must deal with players and parents in an upfront, honest, forthright manner and refrain from providing misrepresentations to their players and parents.
6. Coaches will not seek unfair advantages by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
7. Coach demands on players' time will never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals, school progress or other activities outside recreational soccer.
8. Coaches will follow the RSA required playing time rules for all age divisions. All players must play at least 50% of each game, barring injury or other allowable exceptions which must be noted on all game sheets.
9. Coaches must never encourage players to violate NTSSA recruitment, eligibility, or guest player rules and policies.
10. Coaches should ensure players are directed to seek proper medical attention for injuries and will follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery. At no time will a Coach put a player at risk by returning him/her back to playing from injury prematurely or asking the player to play while injured.

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11. Under no circumstances will coaches authorize or encourage the use of medical or performance enhancing drugs, or supplements of any kind whether legal or illegal, prescription, or over-the-counter. Medications and supplements of any kind must be the responsibility of the parents and/or legal guardian.
12. Coaches shall not engage in or attempt to initiate a consensual relationship with an 18U or 19U player when the coach is in a "position of authority" with respect to the player. Should a consensual relationship develop or appear likely to develop, the coach should step down from his or her position with the player's team.

We want to thank you again for your time and dedication to the children and the sport, as many times a child will view their coach as an additional parent or authority figure and those views can impact their life for years to come.

Thank you again,

RSA Staff and Board