



## Parent Code of Conduct and Infraction Policy

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It is a privilege to be a part of the United States Soccer Federation, United States Youth Soccer Association, and Kentucky Youth Soccer Association. My action shall always reflect credit upon these organizations and their affiliates. **At SKY we are a proud Club Partner of the SoccerParenting Association learn more at [soccerparenting.com](http://soccerparenting.com) and Take the Pledge! at [The Sideline Project](http://The Sideline Project).**

### Parents/Spectators:

Parents/Spectators must set the example for the children by exemplifying the highest standards of sportsmanship. Parents/Spectators participate in a match by watching, cheering and supporting the efforts of all participants of the match. Soccer must be Fun. The game is for the children, their participation and enjoyment of the game is the most important element.

- Parents have responsibilities to the coach, team and soccer organization they are a part of Parents/Spectators must have respect for their coach, all children on the team and the authority of the referee and his/her assistants
- Parents/Spectators are expected to have respect for the authority of the referee and his/her assistants. They will not harass, abuse or berate the referee during or after the match. They shall not enter the field of play without the referee's permission.
- Parents/Spectators are expected to have respect for the coach and his/her assistants; they should never criticize a coach in a public manner. Do not coach from the sideline; let the coach do his/her job no matter how much you may disagree. If there is a problem, talk to the director of coaching or executive director. Always use the 24 hour rule and never discuss the events of a game, practice or other event with a coach until 24 hours have past.
- Parents/Spectators are expected to have respect for all players. Cheer in a positive manner not negative. Encourage your team, don't berate the other team. Cheer in a way to reward the good play of both teams and promote fair play.
- Parents/Spectators are not to use foul or abusive language towards any one for any reason.
- Parents/Spectators have a responsibility to learn the laws of the game, and the spirit of the game.
- Parents/Spectators are encouraged to get involved with the organization and promote the game in a positive way.
- Parents/Spectators must demonstrate the utmost in sportsmanship and integrity; they are the role models for their children.



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### SKY Infraction Policy

SKY Soccer Club stands behind the three pillars on which it was developed – Character, Commitment and Community, for the purpose of providing a positive and safe environment for players to develop and enjoy the game of soccer.

Individuals should strive to show respect for all individuals when they participate in club events and interact with others in the community. They should lead by example and remember that both their own, their team and the club's reputations are at stake.

SKY Soccer Club, by this document, will be enforcing a "Zero Tolerance Policy". The following is intended to outline the penalties for failing to comply with the SKY Soccer Code of Conduct Policy, by which every player, parent, spectator, and coach are held to by voluntarily joining the club.

#### **Examples of Unacceptable Behaviors**

- Verbal or physical abuse of an opponent, coach, official, player or spectator.
- Fighting or violence of any kind
- Taunting and trash talking
- "IN YOUR FACE" celebrations
- Use of profanity or other disrespectful language
- Questioning, disagreeing or harassing officials
- Throwing objects onto the playing field
- Booming an official's decision
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants
- Abuse of others in any forum or form, including without limitation, verbal, written, email, or any digital form of communication.

#### **Social Media**

Individuals should not author, forward, or post vulgar or offensive notes, texts, photographs, or other content that reflect negatively on them, their teams, other individuals, or SKY Soccer.

#### **Alcohol and Drug Use**

Any use of alcoholic beverages or banned substances in connection with SKY Soccer Club activities is strictly forbidden.

IF A COACH, PARENT, OR PLAYER WITNESSES UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR from a player, parent, coach or spectator, they have a responsibility to report it, via the escalation path. Any incident reported will result in a fact finding meeting in which a penalty may be determined.



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### **Escalation Path**

1. **Head Coach** – Details of infraction(s) will be documented and sent to administration, DOC and/or the board
2. **DOC or a Director** - Details of infraction(s) will be documented and sent to administration, DOC and/or the board
3. **Disciplinary Committee** – Review the details of the infraction(s) and associated correspondence to decide an action moving forward.

### **Penalties for Non-Compliance** (All penalties will be required to be documented)

Any player, coach, parent, spectator or referee violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Disciplinary Committee of SKY Soccer Club on a case-by-case basis. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Probation
- Suspension (Game or Period of Time)
- Expulsion of individuals from SKY Soccer Club and/or Facilities. (\* no reimbursement for any fees, costs, expenses, etc. if a suspension or expulsion is levied)
- Potential of scholarship revocation and exclusion from future application for scholarships

Penalties can be enforced at any level based on severity of infraction as determined by the SKY board Disciplinary Committee.

Decisions of the SKY Disciplinary Committee are final.

If a coach, parent, or spectator refuses to comply with the penalty, the PLAYER will serve the penalty and may suffer expulsion from the club.

If an appeal is requested the Disciplinary Committee will hold a fact-finding meeting at a neutral location. There will be a MANDATORY attendance requirement by the appealing coach, player and/or parent.

### **Game Specific Infractions**

If a **referee** assigns a card during a game the penalties are as follows:

#### **1<sup>st</sup> YELLOW CARD:**

- Coach – Subject to league rules
- Player – Subject to league rules
- Parent – Documentation and escalation as needed

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> YELLOW CARD in same season:**

- Coach – Subject to league rules
- Player – Subject to league rules
- Parent – Documentation and escalation as needed

#### **RED CARD:**

- Coach – Subject to league rules
- Player – Subject to league rules
- Parent – Documentation, Minimum of 1 game suspension, and escalation as needed