



## CLUB LEAGUE RULES OF ETIQUETTE FOR PARENTS AND PLAYERS



Your child is playing soccer for fun. We want you to enjoy the game also. This information is provided to assist everyone in gaining the maximum benefit possible from our soccer league. Below are some simple rules you should observe. Please do so.

1. **Be a knowledgeable participant.** Don't make a fuss only to find out you were wrong about the rules. Club League rules, schedules and standings are posted on our web site: [www.kawalleysoccer.com](http://www.kawalleysoccer.com) The full FIFA rules are posted on the FIFA web site: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com)
2. **Be on time.** All players should arrive 40 minutes prior to game time so you can have a full 30 minutes to warm up. Players need a proper warm-up in order to perform well.
3. **Players are responsible for having all appropriate equipment.** That includes appropriate gear for any weather. It is not acceptable – and it impacts on performance – for players not to have proper warm clothes, wind-breakers, and rain gear.
4. **Full uniforms and shin guards are required.** No mismatched socks, shorts, or jerseys. Players may wear sweatshirts and pants under their uniforms. They may also wear stocking caps and gloves.
5. **Remember that the main objective of this league is DEVELOPMENT.** Winning is not the best or only measure of development. Development takes time. Be patient, and help us foster it by recognizing every incremental gain. Do not focus on whether you win or lose, but rather on performance. Any good play is success. Any slight individual improvement is success. By acknowledging the little successes and giving all players the recognition they deserve you will be contributing to everyone's success.
6. **If your team loses, adopt a positive attitude.** Compliment the child upon his or her good plays. Ignore the mistakes. The child will be happy that you noticed his or her good qualities.
7. **Keep it fun for everyone!** Remember: your child will forget today's game. Next week he or she will probably have forgotten the score. However, both of you will remember that you had a good time playing the most popular sport in the world.
8. **Aid the team managers as requested.** Team managers are volunteers. They put in their own time. If they request information, paperwork or assistance, please provide it to them in a timely manner. They are always working under a deadline. Don't make them hunt you down. Make their jobs as easy as possible. They deserve it.
9. **Parents and players are to stay on opposite sides of the field.**
10. Both parents and players are to **keep their distance from the sideline** - behind the red lines along the sidelines. This is so the assistant referees have an unobstructed view of the sidelines.
11. **Parents should make no contact with their children** – from the time you drop off your kid until after the coach dismisses all players. During that time the coaches are in charge. This is so players develop self-reliance and learn to focus on the game.
12. **HALF TIME SNACKS ARE ABSOLUTELY OUT OF THE QUESTION.** Players are to drink water only, and listen to the coach's half-time talk. **NO PLAYER-PARENT CONTACT AT HALFTIME.**

13. **Do not shout instructions to your child. Parents may not coach from the sidelines.** That is the coach's job. Parent coaching distracts players and is often in conflict with the coaching instructions we are giving players. If you shout instructions, your child will probably try to please you and the coach at the same time. In trying to do two things at the same time, the child may fail both. **Let the coaches do the coaching.** If you have any questions on proper coaching points I will be glad to discuss with you.
  14. **Cheer** when your child successfully plays the ball. However, remember that your child is a member of a team. Let the other players know you support them too.
  15. **Suffer in silence** (or moan softly) whenever something occurs that goes against your child's team. A display of anger may inflame a delicate situation. Some parents embarrass their own children by making a spectacle of themselves.
  16. **Do not run up and down the sidelines.** Find a comfortable place to sit down or stand and enjoy the match.
  17. **Soccer is a contact sport and it requires players to be aggressive.** You may think it was a foul, but it probably was not. While we want maximum safety, we do not want players to develop wrong habits. We need them to be aggressive.
  18. **Do not shout insults at the referees.** Create a nurturing environment in which our referees can develop. The referee has the power to stop the game if the crowd becomes discourteous.
  19. **Show respect toward our referees.** We are mentoring them, and we need to be kind and supportive even when they make mistakes. There are two types of reasons for spectator dissatisfaction. Our referees may make mistakes or betray inexperience. Or the spectator might be wrong about the rules or about the facts (what actually happened during a play). Don't make a fool out of yourself - why assume automatically that the referee is wrong? The best policy is to approach the referee at the appropriate time and ask for clarifications (at half-time or after the game).
  20. **Show respect toward our coaches.** If you don't approve of certain coaching decisions discuss it with the League Director. Sometimes an inexperienced coach makes a bad decision. Your feedback to the director will help improve the program. More often there are good reasons for that coaching decision, which the parent was not aware of. The parent may not be knowledgeable about certain aspects of the game.
  21. **Development takes time for coaches and referees, as well as for players.** KVSA has a great referee and coach development program. Speak to the League Directors about coaching issues and to the Referee Coordinator or Supervisors about refereeing issues. Make sure you don't create an incident only to find out it was due to a misunderstanding on your part.
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