



Northwestern Soccer

Parents Code of Conduct

<http://www.nyaatigers.org/soccer>

1. Talk about the children on both teams in the same manner you would like other parents to talk about your child. Watching youth soccer tends to be a social affair. When you're having a conversation on the sideline with your friends and neighbors, think about what you're saying *before* you actually say it. To always be on the safe side, only voice praise for all of the children. That way, you'll never go wrong.
2. It's nice to give the coach a pat on the back when he or she wins. It's even nicer to do it after a loss. Remember, ALL of our coaches are volunteers who are sacrificing their own time to help your child. Give them a well-deserved salute, especially if the team hasn't fared too well.
3. Remind your child that it's the effort that counts. We all know that kids want to win. That's a given. However, for every winning team, there's also a losing team. Be prepared to cushion your child's disappointment after a loss by pointing out that he or she played hard and put forth a tremendous effort.
4. SMILE. A lot. Kid's sports are about having fun, and because kids take their behavioral cues from you, try to at least look like you're enjoying yourself.
5. If parents aren't a good sport at the games, the kids won't either. This should be self-evident. If you set a pattern of being a sideline loudmouth who likes to yell and scream at the ref, coach, or opposing team, don't be surprised when you kids start to copy your behavior. You will only have yourself to blame.
6. Take the time to learn the rules of the game. If you don't know the rules, why don't you and your child learn them together?
7. If you must make noise at games, shout only praise and encouragement. If you're a screamer and yeller, make sure that when you open your mouth, you're only pouring forth cheerful encouragement for your child's team. There is never a place for derogatory, snide or sarcastic comments at a youth soccer game.
8. Above all, be there for your children. Support them and praise them. Let them know that you will always be proud of them...regardless of the score.

Northwestern Soccer is operated under the Northwestern Youth Athletic Association (NYAA). All NYAA by-laws also apply to the Northwestern Soccer program.

Revised: 11/17/2011