

Parents Code of Conduct

Participant's agreement to accept and abide by the rules of the SYSO Travel program.

Parents of players participating in the Shelton Youth Soccer Program are exercising a privilege afforded them by the Shelton Youth Soccer Organization in pursuit of regional recognition as youth soccer players. These players parents must exhibit the behavior that is representative of the Shelton Youth Soccer Organization' goal of exhibiting good sportsmanship at all times. Thus, the following guidelines and rules shall apply in all activities for parents within the Shelton Youth Soccer Organization (SYSO).

1. Know the rules and abide by them.
2. The practice of any parent approaching a coach, referee or opposing team player before, during, or immediately following a game to voice a complaint is strictly forbidden.
3. Do not question an official's call – You may not agree with a call, but it is not your job (or the players or coaches either) to officiate the game. Never should an official's call be argued by anyone. Accept the call and move on.
4. Never make a scene in front of the team as it is embarrassing for you, your children, the coach, the team, and the program; and chances are nothing will get resolved.
5. Act your age – Youth soccer is for the kids. If you find yourself becoming too emotionally involved in what is happening on the field, take a step back and relax. Remember, your childhood is over. Give the young players the freedom to enjoy themselves.
6. Be seen, not heard – Nothing is better for a young player than having their parents on hand to watch them play. And nothing is worse for a player than hearing a parent booing, taunting, screaming or making comments at, or about, players, coaches, fans or officials (that includes your team as well as your opponent). Offer applause and cheers of encouragement for both teams following a good play or a great effort, otherwise keep quiet.
7. Be responsible – Get your kids to practice and games on time.
8. Set the example by showing respect, dignity, and total sportsmanship at all times.
9. Parents must not coach from the spectator's side during matches and training. Chances are you do not know what the coach's strategy for the game is or any specific instructions they may have given your child. This type of behavior only confuses the players and can have a detrimental effect on the game.
10. Parents should not criticize their child on any part of the player's game, leave this to the coaches since it may cause confusion and erode the player's confidence.
11. Respect the facilities at our opponents' grounds as well as all our home facilities.
12. Do not criticize your child's coach to your child or other parents; if you are not happy with the coach, you should raise the issue with the coach.
13. Encourage your child to speak with the coach. If your child is having difficulties in training or games, or cannot attend training etc. encourage him to speak directly to the coaches. This "responsibility taking" is a big part of becoming a mature person. By handling off the field tasks, your child is claiming ownership of all aspects of the game.

14. Monitor eating and sleeping habits. Be sure that your child is eating the correct foods. Players should be in bed at a reasonable hour on the night before a game and early enough on other nights to ensure that adequate rest is being taken.
15. Help the young player to focus on the performance and not the result. Avoid the post-game analysis – Do not analyze your player’s performance following every game. If you do, chances are they will avoid talking to you at all after games, or worse yet, not want you at the games at all. Let your children come to you for advice. It will have more of an impact than you going to them will.
16. Winning is not as important as the performance. Put winning and losing in perspective – Games have winners and losers. Keep reminding your child about this reality and the need to deal with both outcomes. Young players should avoid getting too cocky when they win and too upset when they lose.
17. Motivate through confidence - Try and identify a positive from every game or practice to help build confidence. A young players sense of achievement is the greatest motivator.
18. Support all the players in your child's squad. Do not criticize any player.
19. Do not criticize the opponents, their parents, coaches, or the referee.
20. Parents will not question the “coach’s coaching “ during or after practices or games. The same applies for questioning the referees during or after games. Parents belong in the stands, not behind the bench. Positive and encouraging comments are welcome. Negative or detrimental comments directed at coaches, players, referees, or other spectators are not acceptable. Obscene and/or disrespectful gestures will result in more severe penalties.
21. Remember, all SYSO coaches, managers, and administrators are volunteers. Respect the fact that they are willing to give so much of their time to your child.

Persistent irresponsibility and disrespectful behavior will result in sanctions up to and including dismissal from this program.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE ABOVE RULES AND GUIDELINES. WE ALSO AGREE TO ACCEPT ACTIONS TAKEN FOR FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES.

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN NAME (Print)	SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN	DATE
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PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN NAME (Print)	SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN	DATE
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Note: This form must be completed and returned before a player pass will be issued.