

Southlake Coach's Code of Conduct



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1. **PLAY FAIR:** Winning is without value if victory has been achieved unfairly or dishonestly. Coaches will teach and respect fair play.
 2. **OBSERVE THE LAWS OF THE GAME:** The rules of soccer are simple and easy to learn. Coaches will make an effort to learn the Laws.
 3. **REMEMBER SOCCER IS FOR ENJOYMENT:** The players are part of our program because they want to have fun. Winning is only part of a player's motivation to have fun; quality practices, fair coaching, positive environments, and team events are all part of making their experience fun.
 4. **COMPETITION:** Coaches will teach their players to strive to be the hardest worker, best teammate, compete with the utmost sportsmanship, and always carry a "Can do!" attitude.
 5. **RESPECT OPPONENTS, TEAMMATES, COACHES, REFEREES, GOVERNING OFFICIALS, AND SPECTATORS:** Fair play means respect. Referees are there to maintain discipline and Fair Play. Accept their decisions without arguing. Discussions about officiating should be carried out properly and oriented around decisions that impact player safety; not judgements such as: off-sides or hand balls.
 6. **WINNING AND LOSING:** Coaches will teach their players to be a fair winner and lose graciously. Coaches need to be a role model and never pass the blame for losses onto anyone else; especially the officials. Coaches will never ridicule players for mistakes or losing a competition. Good coaches evaluate themselves and their program to look for pathways to improvement.

Coaches will not sacrifice "everything" to win". A winning coach at this level understands success is determined by many factors such as team development, player development, enjoyment of the game, and sportsmanship.
 7. **FIELDS AND EQUIPMENT:** Coaches will teach the players to respect the fields and equipment. Southlake does not own any fields and has access due to the graciousness of our local communities.
 8. **SAFETY:** Coaches will place safety as a priority. Coaches are often relied upon to make good judgement calls during inclement weather, field situations, and player health. Always error on the side of safety.
 9. **FIRST AID:** Coaches should only administer the first aid they have been trained and certified to perform. When first aid involves physical contact with a player; administer first aid for the player in the presence of others. Show concern and error on the side of safety for sick or injured players. Player health always takes precedent over participation. Never hesitate to call 911. You do not need parental consent to call 911.

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10. **PHYSICAL CONTACT:** Ensure physical contact between the players and a coach is appropriate. High fives are an example of normal social contact, but ensure that all physical contact is appropriate to the situation and/or necessary for the player's soccer development.
11. **RELATIONSHIPS:** Friendship with players is essential to building trust; however, recognize the role of a coach. Players are not the same and the relationships will not be the same, but always strive to be fair and equitable. Your relationships should be focused on the player's development. Always look at your relationships with your players from the view of the parents or an outsider.

Do not put yourself in a position where you are alone with a player. Do not give players a ride in your vehicle without written consent (Email or text from a verifiable number is appropriate) and they are never to be alone in your vehicle.

12. **MEDIA COMMUNICATION:** Any social media communication with players should be done through parent email addresses or the team's social media. Team social media shall be managed using privacy settings that only allow access to team members and parents. GRTYSA may gain access to team social media if the GRTYSA governing body deems it necessary.

Coaches will not engage in any private communications with players through social media or electronic means such as: text, email, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, & Instagram.

I understand and agree, that my conduct can be evaluated by the GRTYSA board. Any misconduct may be deemed inappropriate by such governing body and can include my dismissal as a GRTYSA/Southlake coach. If I am dismissed as a GRTYSA/Southlake coach; GRTYSA may inform other WYSA associations that you were dismissed from coaching youth in our association.

Player Name (Print)

Player Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date