



Parents,

Soccer is an exciting, fast moving and fun game. While healthy competition is encouraged, coaches, players and fans should remember that the objective is to have fun and learn the game of soccer. It is important to our soccer program that all participants conduct themselves in a positive and responsible manner.

Fort Wayne United FC believes that the attitude shown by parents toward the coaches, the referees and the opposing players as well as the importance of winning vs. losing are of paramount importance. Inappropriate comments or actions by adults bent on short-term success rather than the long range benefits undermines the essence of competition and introduces stresses to children that are counter-productive.

Please take the time to go over the *Player Code of Conduct* on the following page with your athlete. Before doing so, however, we hope you will spend time reviewing the *Parent Code of Conduct* which details our expectations from parents/guardians. As adults, we have the important job of teaching and mentoring today's youth. They look to us (especially to parents) for direction and learn from watching our behavior. We know you take this job very seriously in "everyday" life...we ask that you take it equally seriously in the sports world; specifically at all Fort Wayne United games that you attend. At training sessions (an extremely important piece of player development) we ask that you eliminate pressure and allow players to train stress free by not sitting on the sidelines, but away from the field.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

PLEASE...

- Encourage players to have fun at all times. Focus on praise and encouragement rather than on criticism and negative yelling.
- Applaud good plays by players on both teams. Nothing is better than seeing a child smile from recognition. Encourage fair play and good sportsmanship.
- Remember that every player on the team is a contributing player. Soccer is a team sport and without each player, there is no team.
- Attempt to reduce the pressure of competition, not increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences. Parents are to remember that this is a "learning experience" for players and to support this experience.
- Be kind and respectful to our coaches. Parents need to support the coach and his/her decisions and refrain from verbal criticism. Remember, the coach makes the final decision regarding players on the field. If you have an issue to discuss stemming from a game, we ask that you wait 24 hours before approaching or contacting that coach.
- Do not publicly question the referee's judgment. Please remember, many of these referees are young adults learning how to referee the game, so please treat them with respect. They are there to do an honest job which few others are willing to undertake.

- NEVER enter the field to speak with a referee. Speak to your coach or a club official if you have a concern.
- Accept the results of the game. Encourage your child to be a good sport in victory and in defeat. Many times a player will not remember the results of a game an hour later but they will remember how they felt because of their own (and your) actions.
- Only sit in designated areas around the field. The only acceptable area is the sideline on the opposite side of the field from the coaches and players. Sitting along either end line or with the coaches and players is not allowed. This is for your own safety and the safety of the players.
- Treat other fans, coaches, players, and officials with respect, regardless of race, sex, or ability.
- Drinking, smoking, foul language and firearms are not allowed around the fields during games or practices.

We believe we have the best fans around! But we must remind everyone that Fort Wayne United FC will not tolerate behavior which brings the Club, our teams, or the game itself into disrepute. Violations of either Code of Conduct are taken seriously and could result in removal from the fields and/or sanctions at the sole discretion of the Director of Coaching and Club Administration.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

I will play for fun and enjoyment of the game.

I will work hard to improve my soccer skills.

I will be a team player, get along with and cooperate with my coaches and teammates.

I will always be a good sport.

I will respect my coaches, teammates, parents, opponents, and referees.

I will not argue with the referee.

I will not use any profanity at practices or during games.

I will not, under any circumstances, participate in physical violence or threats of physical violence before, during or after any game or practice.

I will not use alcohol or illegal drugs.

I will obey the laws of the game and play within the spirit of those laws.