

## Parent & Spectator Code of Conduct

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### INTRODUCTION

Parents and spectators play a vital role in supporting the development of our players and the success of Sporting California USA. This Code of Conduct outlines the standards and expectations we maintain for all parents and spectators. By supporting a player in our organization, you agree to uphold these principles and contribute positively to our club environment, which has been built on a 37-year tradition of excellence.

### COMMITMENT TO CLUB VALUES

We ask all parents and spectators to support and reinforce our core values:

- **INSPIRATION** - Support not only your own player but all members of the team
- **BELIEF** - Demonstrate confidence in players, coaches, and club leadership
- **DETERMINATION** - Model perseverance through challenges and setbacks
- **DEDICATION** - Show commitment to the long-term development process

### SIDELINE CONDUCT

#### Game Day Behavior

- Encourage and support players in a positive manner without coaching from the sideline
- Refrain from criticizing players, regardless of team affiliation
- Respect officials' decisions without verbal or demonstrative disagreement
- Allow coaches to coach without parent interference or contradiction
- Maintain composure regardless of game situation or outcome
- Position yourself in designated spectator areas only
- Focus comments on positive team play rather than individual performance
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship toward opposing players, coaches, and fans

## Communication During Events

- Refrain from speaking to your player during the game unless responding to them
- Direct all immediate concerns to the appropriate team manager, not the coach
- Wait at least 24 hours after a game to discuss concerns with coaches ("24-Hour Rule")
- Never approach referees, opposing players, or opposing coaches
- Use appropriate language and tone when in the vicinity of any soccer event

## SUPPORTING PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

### Relationship with Coaching Staff

- Respect the expertise and authority of the coaching staff
- Support coach decisions regarding tactics, playing time, and player positioning
- Follow proper communication channels and protocols when concerns arise
- Schedule meetings with coaches in advance during designated times
- Partner with coaches in reinforcing development priorities at home

### Supporting Your Player

- Encourage independence and personal responsibility in your player
- Help players arrive prepared and on time for all team activities
- Emphasize effort, learning, and enjoyment over outcomes
- Maintain realistic expectations based on player age and development stage
- Focus on long-term development rather than short-term results
- Allow your player to experience both success and failure as growth opportunities
- Reinforce the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship

## CLUB OPERATIONS & COMMUNICATION

### Administrative Responsibilities

- Complete all registration requirements and payments by designated deadlines
- Update contact information promptly when changes occur
- Respond to team and club communications in a timely manner
- Fulfill volunteer commitments as outlined by the club or team
- Read and acknowledge all club policies and procedures

### Communication Protocols

- Follow the established communication chain:
  - First: Team Coach (for soccer-related matters)
  - Second: Program/Chapter Director
  - Third: Club General Manager
  - Fourth: Club Administration (for administrative matters)

- Address concerns privately and directly with appropriate personnel
- Utilize official club communication platforms as directed
- Communicate respectfully in all interactions with club representatives
- Provide constructive feedback through appropriate channels

## **CONTRIBUTION TO CLUB CULTURE**

### **Club Representation**

- Represent Sporting California USA positively in all soccer-related settings
- Participate in designated club events, fundraisers, and community service initiatives
- Speak positively about the club, coaches, players, and other families
- Use social media responsibly regarding club matters, do not post content that could damage the reputation of players, coaches, referees, or other clubs.
- Model the values and behaviors we expect from our players

### **Contributing to a Positive Environment**

- Build relationships with other families based on mutual respect
- Welcome new families into the club community
- Support all players on the team, not just your own child
- Recognize and appreciate volunteer efforts within the club
- Help create a developmental environment free from unnecessary pressure

## **TRAVEL PROTOCOLS**

- Respect hotel, tournament, and facility policies during team travel
- Ensure players meet curfews and team obligations during overnight events
- Arrange travel logistics in coordination with team plans
- Represent the club positively in restaurants, hotels, and public spaces
- Support team-building opportunities during travel events

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR CODE VIOLATIONS**

Sporting California USA is committed to providing a positive and supportive environment. However, serious or repeated misconduct will result in appropriate consequences, including but not limited to:

1. Verbal warning
2. Written warning
3. Meeting with club leadership
4. Required temporary absence from team events
5. Removal from sidelines for a designated period
6. Suspension of club membership
7. Termination of club membership

The severity of consequences will be determined by the nature of the violation, history of prior violations, and other relevant factors. Serious violations may result in immediate removal from an event and/or club membership review.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_, parent(s)/guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Sporting California USA Parent & Spectator Code of Conduct. I/We understand that continued association with the club is contingent upon adherence to these standards.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_