

Vallejo PAL Soccer – Coach/Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct

Vallejo PAL Soccer has developed a Code of Conduct that applies to coaches, parents and spectators and is created for the purpose of ensuring that all of our participants have the opportunity to play in a fun, safe and supportive environment.

Each coach, parent and spectator is required to abide by the Code of Conduct. Your signature on this document serves as your agreement to abide by the Code as well as hold other parents and spectators who are your guests responsible as well.

Safety is a primary concern of Vallejo PAL Soccer. Safety does not only include immediate physical harm, but emotional harm as well. For that reason, the following rules apply:

Spectators – All spectators are to stand at least three feet back from the field sidelines. This allows the players to play up to the lines and allows the referee and the coach to clearly see the game. No one may stand behind either goal.

Spectators may never coach. Parents and guests should provide support to the team as a whole, but should not ever provide direction to any player; this includes your own child. Your child needs to become accustomed to listening for instruction from his/her coach and it can be confusing for the child if he/she is receiving instruction from more than one person.

While cheering is encouraged and proves to be exciting for the players, please remember to remain enthusiastic even after a “bad” play. There is nothing worse for the players than turning to their parents and friends only to see a look of disappointment.

Referee – We are losing referees each year as the result of the abuse they are taking from some coaches, parents and guests who find it necessary to challenge the referee’s decisions. Please remember that during the game, the referee is the boss.

Parents and spectators should not have interaction with the referee during the course of a game. If there is an issue during the game, the team coach will handle the issue after the game has ended and through established guidelines. If a parent has an issue with a referee, they should approach the team coach with the issue after the game has ended.

Coaches and spectators may not object to or question a referee call or judgment during a game or on the field at any time. Referees do have the authority to end a game if the coach or spectator is not handling themselves appropriately.

Due to a shortage of referees, a coach may be asked to act as a referee during a game. Please afford the same courtesy to these coaches as you would to a referee.

We are always looking for folks who are interested in becoming referees and offer classes that qualify for related licensure. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact a PAL Board Member for more information.

How can I help? – Players, coaches and spectators can help to ensure that we have yet another successful season by following this Code of Conduct. Please help your coach by ensuring that your child arrives to practice on time and that he/she comes prepared with cleats, shin guards and a water bottle.

League rules indicate that every child will play at least 20 minutes of the game unless the child has failed to attend practice. Coaches have the authority to limit play time if deemed necessary based upon either attendance or behavior.

Please cheer for everyone. If you have a question about game day, game times or rules, your point of contact is your child’s coach. Coaches are required to attend monthly meetings and have the most up to date information. Referring questions to your child’s coach will ensure a faster response than leaving a message on the PAL Hotline.

What does it mean to be a winner? – Each of us has the power to redefine the meaning of the word winner in our individual interactions with players, coaches and spectators. Winners are people give their best, continue to learn and improve and who do not let the fear of making mistakes get in their way. It is important to remember that children are born with different abilities and they develop at their own rate. The true measure of how a child is doing cannot be determined by comparing them to another child, but rather in comparison to his/her personal best.

Alcoholic Beverages – Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on our fields.

Pets – Pets are not allowed on our field.

These rules and policies and put into place for the protection of all participants. We appreciate your attention and commitment to them.

Please sign below indicating that you have read and understand the Vallejo PAL Soccer Code of Conduct.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Coach Signature

Date