

Codes of Ethics for Parents/Supporters, and Disciplinary Procedures for Recreational play.

1. ASSOCIATION OVERVIEW

The Stockton Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that provides three divisions of play depending on the age and the ability of the player: Recreational, Competitive, and TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer). Stockton Youth Soccer Association, referred to as SYSA, is governed by CalNorth District 8, who are in turn governed by the parent association of CalNorth

Mission Statement

The mission of the Stockton Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) is to foster physical, mental, and emotional growth through the sport of soccer for all the children in the City of Stockton. In all decisions, the SYSA focuses on putting the children's interests first.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose

SYSA values sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among all players, coaches, officials and spectators. This Code of Conduct has been established and adopted to ensure the guiding principles of SYSA are understood and met by all individuals associated with this organization.

This Code of Conduct applies to all Recreational Soccer programs. These activities include, but are not limited to, sign-up sessions, team formations, practices, SYSA sponsored games, and any activities, attended under the SYSA banner, run by other organizations.

The Code of Conduct for coaches, players, parents, and spectators will be thoroughly discussed at the pre-season coaches meeting. In addition, this Code of Conduct, and Disciplinary Procedures will be available on the Stockton Youth Soccer Association website for review. The following code of conduct will be strictly enforced.

3. PARENTS AND SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

Each parent and spectator will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult or youth who are positively encouraging all participants to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, each parent and spectator is expected to:

- a) Respect the rules of the game.
- b) Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions or from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful, abusive or insulting manner.
- c) Cheer for their team in a positive, supportive manner.
- d) Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- e) Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoid the use of abusive language, profanity, and gestures of ill temper, and refrain at all times from making hostile or negative remarks about the opposing team.
- f) Respect all Stockton Youth Soccer Association staff and Board Members.
- g) Respect the property of others.

- h) Demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of a game, win or lose or draw.
- i) Do not interact in a negative fashion with fans, players or coaches of the opposing team or game officials.
- j) Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy, and citizenship of its fans.
- k) Everyone participating in any game or practice under the SYSA banner (adult and youth) shall conduct themselves in a manner that would place the team, SYSA, and the city in a positive light, and not bring the game, team, league or city into disrepute.

4. OFFENSIVE ACTIONS

Any parent/spectator who is dismissed from the game shall be dismissed for Inappropriate or Irresponsible Behavior.

Any individual violating the Code of Conduct set forth above shall be subject to penalties and sanctions as set forth in the Disciplinary Procedures below. In addition to conforming to the requirements of the Code of Conduct above, the following actions are specifically prohibited ("*Offensive Actions*"):

- a) Refusing to abide by an official's decision.
- b) Verbally abusing or assaulting any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or Stockton Youth Soccer Association staff or Board Members.
- c) Physically assaulting, abusing, or threatening any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or Stockton Youth Soccer Association staff or Board Members.
- d) Stalking, tailing, or attempting to intimidate any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or Stockton Youth Soccer Association staff or Board Members.
- e) Engaging in any other type of violent behavior, such as throwing equipment or other objects.
- f) Engaging in any lewd or sexual behavior, physically abusing a player, or engaging in any inappropriate physical contact with a player.
- g) Pushing, shoving, or striking any player.
- h) Using tobacco products, drugs or alcohol while coaching, attending, or participating in any SYSA sport or other SYSA event.

5. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Reporting Inappropriate or Irresponsible Conduct

Stockton Youth Soccer Association provides a forum on its website to allow coaches, players, parents, spectators, and officials to report to the Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee any issues they observe before, during, or after practices and games. The link to report Code of Conduct violations and Offensive Actions can be found under "Contact Us" on the SYSA website: [www.stocktonyouthsoccerassociation.org]

SYSA Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee

The SYSA PAD Committee will conduct a timely and reasonable investigation into any misconduct reported to the PAD Committee. The scope of any investigation will be determined by the PAD Committee in its sole discretion, provided, however, that the Committee will provide any person accused of misconduct a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

After a reasonable investigation, the PAD Committee will determine any appropriate penalty for any violation of this Code of Conduct and any Offensive Action.

Penalties will be based on the nature and severity of the violation.

The PAD Committee will strive to treat all similar offenses in a similar manner, while taking into account the individual facts and circumstances of each violation.

The PAD Committee will not discriminate in any manner in determining whether to impose a penalty or in determining which penalty to impose.

The committee shall follow the PAD Standard Operating Procedures.

The PAD Committee will keep reasonable and appropriate records of each reported violation, and shall document each penalty and the reasons for imposing the penalty.

6. PENALTIES

The PAD Committee shall determine the appropriate penalty for any violation of the Code of Conduct and any Offensive Actions. Penalties shall follow the CalNorth “Disciplinary Guidelines” found in the Team Manual, and may include any one or more of the following:

- a) Verbal Warning
- b) Written Warning
- c) Probation
- d) Suspension:
 - i. One game suspension
 - ii. Multiple game suspension, or
 - iii. Indefinite suspension
- e) Expulsion from SYSA

Appeals to decisions will not be considered by the SYSA Board of Directors, but must be made to CalNorth District 8.

Probation may not be appealed.

Additional Considerations

If a parent is expelled from the league, any child associated with that person is also expelled from the league and will be removed from that team.

There are no refunds as a result of any person being removed from the league.