

GREATER LAFAYETTE RECREATIONAL SOCCER ALLIANCE

To: All GLRSA Coaches

Re: Expectations

First of all, I would like to thank you for volunteering to coach this season. I know it takes a lot of time, effort, and energy. We wouldn't be able to provide the great game of soccer for the kids in the league without you. With that being said, please review some of the more common issues you may experience and some advice on how to handle them.

1. Communicating with the referee, other coach, and/or a parent
 - a. Games by nature are competitive. Do not let your emotions get the best of you. You are a role model for the players. Do not shout at or argue with referees, coaches, or parents – nobody wins.
 - b. The referee's call is final. If you disagree with it, discuss at halftime or after the game but in a professional and calm manner. If you are concerned that the referee doesn't know the rules, please bring that to the attention of GLRSA at glrsa1@aol.com.
 - c. Please conduct all conversations in a calm and professional manner away from the kids – no foul language!
 - d. Report any problems to GLRSA at glrsa1@aol.com.
 - e. **We expect coaches to be professional at all times – no exceptions!**
2. Do not talk to players on the other team.
 - a. Regardless if your intentions are good, the other coach and parents may not see it this way.
 - b. Same for your parents and players, they shouldn't be talking to the other players on the opposite team.
3. Know the rules of the game
 - a. You need to know the rules – especially off-sides and substitution procedures.
 - b. GLRSA rules are on our website – please read them before your games – they do change from season to season sometimes.
 - c. If you don't know a rule or you don't understand it, you need to ask for assistance – not knowing makes for difficult situations and hurts your credibility and effectiveness as a coach – Be Prepared!
 - d. Throw ins – if they lift their back foot, then it is a bad throw in and the ball goes to the other team (referees may give the kids in U8 a second chance).
 - e. If a player is tripped by a player from the opposite team, it is a foul – even if it was an accident.
 - f. Protect the goalies – if they have a finger or hand on the ball, they are in possession of the ball – we don't need any collisions or injuries (this is being shared with referees as well).
 - g. Just because the ball hits a kid in the hands or on the arm doesn't mean the referee is supposed to call a hand ball.
 - h. If you need help with the rules, please contact your area rep or email glrsa at glrsa1@aol.com.
4. Have Fun and Safety First at all times
 - a. Make the practices and games fun for the kids!
 - b. Make sure goals are anchored at all times – no exceptions!
 - c. Kids must wear shin guards at practices and games.
 - d. There are plenty of online resources to help you with practices game plans, drills, and games to play. The Indiana Youth Soccer Association recreational manual is located at www.glrsa.org (under Forms/Coaches link).

Thanks again for all you do! Please contact your area rep with any questions or concerns with this information.

Rodney
GLRSA President
