

Pre-Season Team Meeting

Below are some suggested topics for your pre season meeting...

1. Introductions – Coaches and Assistant Coaches
2. Philosophy of Coaching
3. Goals for the Season
4. Rules of the Game – Changes from previous season
5. Code of Conduct – Players
6. Code of Conduct – Parents
7. Practice & Game Administrative Information
8. Establish Parent Volunteers
9. Parent Questions

Philosophy of Coaching

Here's where you can describe how you intend to coach during the season. While this may be different for each coach, some principles of the club should apply. For example, HSC is a recreational club – the emphasis is on learning to love the game of soccer and being part of a team. While winning is fun, it is not fundamentally what we focus on.

Goals for the Season

This section can identify both soccer specific skills as well as team oriented goals such as good sportsmanship. You can discuss interactions with other teams, parent, etc.

Rules of the Game

As the kids age, the rules change. And, the complexity of the game shifts. This is your opportunity to explain these changes to the parents and kids.

Code of Conduct – Players (taken from the PYSA handbook)

Player's Code of Conduct

PYSA considers good conduct by players, parents and coaches to be an extremely important part of the soccer program. The following Code of Conduct for players will be read to both teams, by the referee, prior to the start of each PYSA game:

- Treat opponents with respect.
- Play hard but within the rules of the game of soccer.
- Keep control of your temper.
- Respect the referee and accept their decisions without gesture or argument.
- Win without boasting, lose without excuses.
- Never quit.
- Remember it is a privilege to represent your soccer club and community.

Player's Rights

1. The right to decide when to participate in soccer.
2. The right to play at least 50% of each game (this may be conditional on a player being disciplined or due to sickness or injury).
3. The right to participate at a level that corresponds to each child's maturity and ability.
4. The right to be taught the fundamentals of soccer.
5. The right to participate in a safe and healthy environment.
6. The right to play as a child and enjoy participation in the sport.

Code of Conduct – Parents (taken from the PYSA handbook)

Parent's Code of Conduct

It is vital to PYSA's mission that the conduct of parents and spectators be supportive and positive at all times. The following Code of Conduct for parents emphasizes the key points that all parents and spectators are expected to abide by during all PYSA competitions:

- Remember that children play organized sports for their own fun. They are not there to entertain you; and they are not miniature professional athletes.
- Be on your best behavior. Don't use profanities or harass players, coaches or referees.
- Applaud good plays by your own team AND the opposing team.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competition.
- Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
- Respect the referees and do not criticize their decisions.
- Encourage players to always play according to the rules.
- Do not coach team players, including your own child, from the sidelines during the game.
- Communicate with your coach and create a positive, supportive working relationship.
- Avoid the use of fear and a win-at-all costs mentality – players just want to have fun.

Practice & Game Administration

- When to arrive
- What to bring
- When, to whom and how to communicate an absence from a game or practice

Establish Parent Volunteers

You are the coach, but you are not required to do all the administrative work for the team. Ask can parents to fill the following roles:

- Snacks coordinator
- Player card manager
- Equipment manager
- Pre & post season team meetings administrator

Questions & Answers