

# TCYSA Sideline Behavior Policy

TCYSA has a zero tolerance policy when it comes to anyone on the sidelines exhibiting negative behavior towards referees or opposing players and coaches.

1. **Communication with Referees.** Simply put, yelling at or verbally abusing referees will not be tolerated. Please remember that the referee (like the players and coaches) will make mistakes. When the referee makes a call, players and coaches must abide by the decision and continue play without incident. Spectators or coaches who do not follow this guideline will be subject to discipline (even in the absence of the referee taking action on the field).

2. **Teenage referees.** All of our referees have passed a state licensing course. Some of our referees have decades of experience, while some referees are younger, and learning how to manage a contest. TCYSA is intent on creating an environment which fosters the development of referees in a positive manner, without having to deal with adults yelling at them. We do not want any referees, and especially the teenagers, to be subjected to any negative comments from the sidelines and intend to swiftly curb such behavior.

3. **TCYSA field marshals.** TCYSA will have field marshals at many games, each of whom will have the authority to eject coaches or spectators (without warning) in the event any objectionable behavior is observed. TCYSA appreciates that the overwhelming majority of players, coaches and spectators engage in appropriate behavior which generally creates a very positive experience for everyone involved. That being said, TCYSA is going to put particular emphasis on limiting, and hopefully eliminating, the negative behavior which appears from time to time.

4. **No degrading comments.** Don't degrade any player, coach or volunteer. Degrading comments or language may result in discipline.

5. **No dogs on sidelines.** Out of concern for spectator/participant safety and comfort, dogs are not allowed on the sidelines at TCYSA sponsored games.

6. **Adhere to the Spectator Code of Conduct.** TCYSA asks that all spectators follow this code to insure a positive experience for everyone including players, coaches, volunteers and spectators.

## **TCYSA Spectator Code of Conduct**

Spectators at TCYSA events are expected to follow this code of conduct.

I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is, primarily, for them. This is not World Cup play.

I will inform the coach of any disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.

I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.

I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other team or league event.

I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing or taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.

I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health or well being of the athletes.

I will teach my child to play by the rules.

I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than the outcome of the game.

I will encourage my child to compete fairly.

I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making mistakes.

I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child.

I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss or confront coaches or referees at the game field.

I will speak with my team coach at an agreed upon time and place to discuss any concerns I might have.

I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am a designated coach or assistant for that team.