



## GREATER LAFAYETTE REGIONAL SOCCER ALLIANCE

To: All GLRSA Coaches

Re: Expectations

First of all, we would like to thank you for volunteering to coach this season. We 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. Do not shout at or argue with referees, coaches, or parents – nobody wins. Remember the code of conduct.
  - 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](mailto: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](mailto:glrsa1@aol.com).
  - e. **We expect coaches to be role models and 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 should not be talking to the other players on the opposite team.
3. Know the rules of the game
  - a. Do not use players that are not on your official roster. You will be suspended by the league.
  - b. You need to know the rules – especially off-sides and substitution procedures.
  - c. GLRSA rules are on our website – please read them before your games – they do change from season to season sometimes.
  - d. If you don't know a rule or you don't understand it, please ask for assistance – not knowing makes for difficult situations and hurts your credibility and effectiveness as a coach – Be Prepared!
  - e. 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).
  - f. If a player is tripped by a player from the opposite team, it is a foul – even if it was an accident.
  - g. Just because someone gets kicked, doesn't mean there was a foul – could have been a 50/50 ball.
  - h. 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).
  - i. 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.
  - j. If you need help with the rules, please contact your area rep or email glrsa at [glrsa1@aol.com](mailto: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](http://www.glrsa.org) (under Coaches Corner).

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

GLRSA Board of Directors

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