



## 8.4. CODE OF CONDUCT

“Any player, whether he/she is within or outside the field of play, whose conduct is ungentlemanly or unladylike or violent, whether or not is directed towards an opponent, a colleague, the referee, a linesman or other person, or who uses foul or abusive language, is guilty of an offense, and shall be dealt with according to the nature of the offense committed.”

The above is a decision of the International Football Association Board, which is the ruling body of FIFA. The above rule specifically mentions conduct violations of players. However, we at BJSA believe if it pertains to players, it must also pertain to coaches, parents or anyone in attendance at our games. We cannot and do not ask for a higher level of conduct from our players than we do from our adults.

BJSA is dedicated to practicing good sportsmanship and fairness. The youth players will learn from the adults.

Therefore, BJSA has established a basic Code of Conduct for all participants and spectators. The Code of Conduct is applicable wherever a BJSA team is playing.

**The General Rule** is that soccer is a game for the players and not for the coaches, referees or spectators. Players should be allowed to have fun and to learn. They are not to be pressured or abused.

**At all times**, positive reinforcement should be provided to the game participants.

**Screaming and the use** of obscene language or remarks are specifically prohibited in soccer. This is the case whether they are directed at coaches, referees, players or other spectators.

**Any disagreements** should be expressed in the appropriate manner and through the proper channels at the proper time. Players should direct their comments to their coaches. Parents should direct their comments to the coach or the appropriate league coordinator. Coaches should direct their comments to the appropriate BJSA official (such as President or respective Coordinator).

**Under NO circumstances** will a spectator be allowed to interfere with the field of play. (The referee may call a parent or guardian onto the field as a result of an injury). Coaches, players and spectators must stay at least three feet from the touchline. In addition, they may not be behind the end line between the two corner flags. It must be remembered that the ball is not considered to be out of play until the ball is completely over the touchline.

**All game participants** are subject to the Laws of the Game as established by FIFA and as interpreted by US Soccer, Connecticut Junior Soccer Association and BJSA.

**In order to enforce** this Code of Conduct, BJSA has established a disciplinarian board comprised of the BJSA Executive board members. Potential actions brought before the disciplinarian board will be reviewed.

**Any player or coach** brought before the disciplinarian board and found to have committed an infraction of the Code of Conduct, will be dealt with accordingly.

**The disciplinarian board** may act independent of and separate from any disciplinary actions taken by any other authorities. These actions may be in addition to or be more severe than actions taken by other authorities.