

Coach Code of Conduct

Thank you for your consideration to coach a team for Centerburg Trojan Soccer. We appreciate your willingness to be an integral part of our program. We are constantly trying to improve the soccer program as we grow and ensure our youth have a positive, consistent experience. We understand this is most seen at the coaching level which is why we want to invest our efforts into providing our coaches with all the necessary materials to become successful coaches. You don't need to have coaching experience, we can help you with that. The only requirement is you must enjoy working with children. We will be offering many new resources to help our coaches grow. Below is our Coach Code of Conduct which outlines our standards for coaching. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this document.

Thank you again for volunteering. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Director of Coaching

- All representatives of Centerburg Trojan Soccer should keep in mind that youth soccer is a service to the community. It can grow only if we make the welfare of the players our primary concern.
- A coach is to teach the players the game of soccer and good sportsmanship.
- Winning should NOT be the first priority of the coach.
- The officials shall be treated with respect. Honor their decisions and teach players to do the same. Harassment by players, coaches and/or spectators, as well as verbal abuse, will not be tolerated.
- Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
- During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them and you may need to be forceful and direct from yelling at players and the referee.
- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team.
- During the game, do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently after the game.
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to the Director of Coaching. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.

Coaching Assignments

A) Previous coaches and those with experience will be given first consideration.

B) Coaching evaluations will be used as a tool in the selection process in needed.

C) Final decision will be made by majority vote of the Board with recommendations from the Director of Coaching.

- All coaches are subject to a background check.
- All coaches are required to show proof of successful completion of concussion protocol training prior to the start of the season.
- Absence of the coach is not acceptable for cancellation of the game; the coach must notify the Director of Coaching as soon as possible to seek a replacement.
- Any complaints will be handled by the Director of Coaching and the Board.
- A recreational coach is expected to keep his/her team for the full season, be it the fall or spring season.
- Remember, our environment is tobacco and alcohol free. Please refrain from these activities while engaging in any event sponsored by our organization. Also, please refrain from using inappropriate or threatening language. There is never a place in youth sports to use vulgarities, threaten, intimidate, or use physical aggression.

Game Cancellations/Weather policy Considerations

- Coaches may not cancel a game due to weather conditions. Cancellation for weather may only be made by the Director of Coaching, the Program Director, or two Board Members if the others not available. Weather policy available on website. Please use for cancellation of your training sessions.
- Cancellations will be made no later than one (1) hour prior to game time. If play has already commenced, the officials have the authority.
- If a game conflict is noted for coach on game schedule, please contact the Director of Coaching for a possible reschedule.

Adopting US Youth Soccer Standards

As our soccer program grows, we feel an obligation to transition towards the soccer guidelines set forth by US Youth Soccer. You may have noticed we started this process this season by registering players by birth year. We also reduced the number of players on the field. This ensures players are getting more high quality touches on the ball. This season we plan to continue transitioning to the US Youth Soccer model and standards. As we grow we will attempt to get all standards in place.

Below is a summary of the major changes we will implement this Fall 2018.

- **Background Checks**

All coaches will be subject to a background check.

- **Mandatory Coaches Meeting**

With all the changes our league is going through, this season the coaches meeting will be required. We will provide an overview of the season and discuss scheduling.

- **Coaches Clinic**

Although highly recommended, not mandatory. This will be an opportunity for coaches to attend an instructional clinic where you can ask technical questions, see demonstrations of skills, get a better understanding of techniques and drills, and spend time going over your Coaching Guide. (Date will be prior to first practice. More details to follow.)

- **Coach Evaluations**

A brief survey given to parents at the end of the season to solicit feedback and identify improvement opportunities.

- **Weather Policy**

Coaches may not cancel a game due to weather conditions. Cancellation for weather may only be made by the Director of Coaching, Director of Program, or if not available, by joint decision of two (2) Board members. Cancellations will be made no later than one (1) hour prior to game time. If play has already commenced, the officials have the authority to postpone, suspend, or cancel the game.

- **Player Development Model**

We are transitioning to US Youth Soccer Curriculum which includes smaller fields, less players on the field, and a coaching guide for each division.