



PALMYRA RIVERTON SOCCER CLUB

CODE OF CONDUCT

Important information about Youth and sports: Kids participate in sports primarily because it's *fun*. Adults need to keep it fun. Some adults get too emotional about youth sports because they are too concerned about how their kids are doing, have the mistaken belief that winning is very important, or have a desire for glory through their kid's success. Kids need to know that if they're trying their best, they are winners. Parents need to remember that their kids will not be great at everything. Recognizing that, parents can help most by relaxing and enjoying these fleeting years. Set a good example. Children learn by example.

COACH'S PLEDGE:

- When I coach I will remember that encouragement and praise for every child, not just the best athletes, are critically important to their self-esteem and their ability to achieve the most they can.
- Promote fun (on & off the field), friendships & learning new skills. Seek no unfair advantages, except those of skill.
- Only provide positive reinforcement and encouragement. Remember, it's only a game, so have fun with it.
- Referees, administrators and opponents should be treated with respect and dignity.
- Official decisions should be accepted without looking angry. Do not make loud offensive remarks. Always be professional.
- Concentrate on coaching, rather than on the accuracy of the referee's decisions.
- Teach each child how to win and lose with dignity and grace. You are their role model, so please act accordingly.
- The idea is to provide the greatest good to the greatest number of children. Children will always remember this experience.
- Give good guidelines to parents. Set high standards. Be firm with parents at games.
- Encourage fair sportsmanship. Treat all participants the way you would want to be treated.
- **I will set a good example.**

PLAYERS PLEDGE:

- When I Play I will have fun, make new friends, and learn new skills. Be a good and supportive teammate. Do the best for the team.
- Be generous and kind when you win or lose and be fair and honest, always, no matter what the circumstance.
- Obey the rules of the game. Listen to, and respect your coaches, officials, administrators and referees at all times.
- I recognize that striving to win, rather than winning itself is what is important in sports and life.
- Striving to win means doing the best you can.
- **I will set a good example.**

PARENTS PLEDGE

- When I'm at a game or practice, I will be positive or quiet. I will not be loud towards any participants. I acknowledge that failing to show respect for people who are doing the best they can sets a bad example for our children and can result in my expulsion from the field. If someone else makes an inappropriate comment, I will not make a negative response that could lead to a confrontation.
- I acknowledge that making mistakes and losing are part of life. I pledge that I will be tolerant of the mistakes of players, coaches, referees, and all other participants. I recognize the mistakes are opportunities for learning.
- I will not coach or give suggestions as a spectator. **Leave the coaching to the coach.**
- Children have more need of example and praise and encouragement, than for criticism and negative yelling.
- Be kind and respectful to your child's coaches, teammates and officials. Your child's coaches volunteer to give their personal time to provide a recreational activity for *your* child. These people are providing a valuable community service, often without reward, other than the personal satisfaction of having served the community and making a positive difference in the lives of Pal-Riv children. The best way to better the program is to volunteer to help in any way you can.
- Do not openly question the referee's judgment, and never his/her honesty. The referee is a symbol of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship. Please remember, many referees are still children learning how to ref, so please give them a break. Accept the results of the game, and encourage your child to be gracious in victory, and turn defeat into victory, by working towards improvement. *A child will not remember the results of a game but will remember how they felt of your actions.*
- **I will set a good example.**

The Palmyra Riverton Soccer Club has adopted this code of conduct for the organization. We are committed to the principles outlined in this code. Failure to abide by this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the club, or possible criminal prosecution under New Jersey State Statute. Disciplinary action will be decided by the Palmyra Riverton Soccer Club Executive Board.

I have read and agree to abide by the Palmyra Riverton Soccer Club Code of Conduct:

Signed: _____

Parent(s) must sign

Adopted by Palmyra Riverton Soccer Club – December 2002