

Monticello Soccer Club - Soccer Parent Responsibility Policy

Intent of the policy:

To make parents aware of the positive and negative influences their behavior and speech can have on developing players. Provide some specific examples of each, and to encourage them to limit their behavior and speech to those things that promote player development. This will help keep a safe environment and positive sportsmanship environment on the field and within the club. To impress upon parents the responsibilities for their player that the club expects them to fulfill.

Why this policy exists:

As in all youth sports, parents can have a lot of passion for their player. Sometimes passions cause parents to forget that they are role models and will result in behavior that has a negative influence on the game, the player, and the club. Clear instructions are felt to be helpful in avoiding this situation.

Policy:

1. Promote a positive soccer experience:
 - Always display a positive attitude.
 - Only give words of encouragement.
 - Show interest in your child's soccer experience.
 - Do not speak negatively of your child's or another child's abilities.
 - Monitor your child's experience and discretely raise any concerns to your child's coach out of the presence of other players and parents.
 - Be understanding of referees that are in training.
 - Be aware of rules that will be followed at each level.
2. Promote health and safety:
 - Always have your child bring water.
 - Always have your child wear shin guards.
 - Inform your child's coach of any medical conditions (e.g., asthma) or injuries.
 - Dress your child appropriately for the weather, including coats, hats, and gloves.
 - If weather conditions are questionable, remain at the soccer field.
 - If assigned, provide an appropriate treat for team.
3. Promote good sportsmanship:
 - Teach your child to be gracious in winning and losing.
 - Cheer for all players on your child's team.
 - Reinforce positive behavior.
 - Discuss any negative behavior with your child.
 - Ask your child to pay attention to the coach during practices and games.
 - Do not coach from the sideline during a game (that is the coach's job).
 - **DO NOT SPEAK DIRECTLY TO OPPOSING PLAYERS OR REFEREES DURING A GAME.**

4. Have your child prepared for every practice and game:
 - Always have your child bring water.
 - Always have your child wear shin guards.
 - Always have your child bring a ball.
 - Have your child wear her/his jersey to games.
5. Good attendance:
 - Arrive before the beginning of practice or game.
 - If you must leave during any practice or game, arrive before the end time to pick up your child.
 - Only miss games or practices when necessary in fairness to players on your child's team.
 - If your child will not be attending a practice or game:
 - § Inform the coach as soon as possible.
 - § Make arrangements with coach or another parent to provide treats.
 - If you bring other children to practices or games, monitor their behavior.
6. Pick up all trash after each practice or game.
7. **No** alcohol or tobacco products are allowed at any MSC event.
8. **No** pets are allowed at any MSC fields.
9. **No** parking on the west side of the access road to the Eastview parking lot.
10. Get involved!
 - Assist your child's coach during practices and games.
 - Play soccer with your child at home.
 - Ask an MSC board member (contact information on the website) about how you can volunteer or check out the website www.rivereagles.org.