

Team Mission

It is our belief that the team concept must take precedent over all individual priorities. Most clubs have people and players who want to win, but are not willing to sacrifice the good of the individual for the good of the group. What this sacrifice entails is giving yourself over to the team for the good of the whole, and playing your part. It may not always make you happy, but when you do this, you will make the commitment to enjoy the game fully and understand what it means to be part of a team, which often leads to the best way to win. Individual accomplishment is great, but here we believe it is how much you help your teammates improve that counts.

With that in mind, the club believes there is a way to play the game that best portrays its beauty. It is the code by which we want all our teams to live by and set an example for those who follow or view us.

The Code

1. A commitment to penetrate, go forward, attack.
2. A commitment to go both ways, to cover for your teammate.
3. Constant player and ball movement.
4. Proper Balance.
5. Proper Spacing.
6. Everyone must be an offensive threat, no matter what your strengths are.
7. Make the most of your abilities by playing within yourself.
8. Believe in and support your teammates no matter how bad or good you believe their abilities to be. Your ability to find their strengths and accentuate them will help the club reach their vision.

Vikings Keys to Success

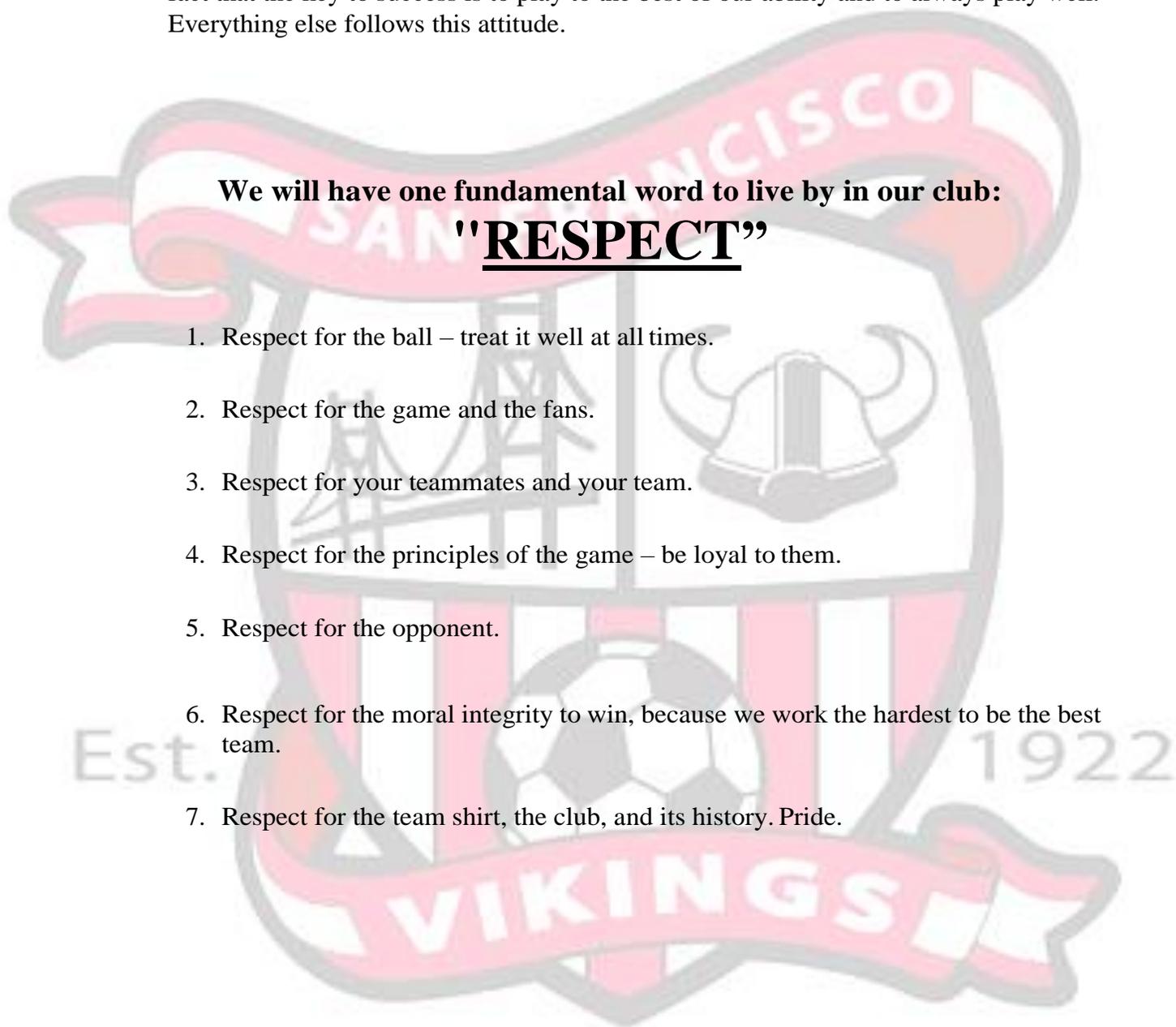
1. Strong work ethic.
2. Clear understanding of the obstacles we must overcome.
3. Developing players from our youngest age groups on up through skill and understanding of the game.
4. Realizing that the correct direction might not win in the short term, but will always win out in the long-term to the benefit of the club and its players.
5. Proper Emphasis, not over emphasis, on winning tournaments and championships.
6. We must be more than a winning club. We must offer an exciting event where soccer is played well, and people and participants enjoy the game.
7. Winning, however, is important in this endeavor. Winning brings forth simplicity. With winning efforts and the effort put in is rewarded and problems

are learned to be solved in an efficient manner. Even the problems that might seem impossible to overcome are eventually solved. That creates the basis for our belief that we can overcome any obstacle in life or on the playing field.

Winning strengthens the attitude of the club. Our players need to be committed to the fact that the key to success is to play to the best of our ability and to always play well. Everything else follows this attitude.

We will have one fundamental word to live by in our club:
"RESPECT"

1. Respect for the ball – treat it well at all times.
2. Respect for the game and the fans.
3. Respect for your teammates and your team.
4. Respect for the principles of the game – be loyal to them.
5. Respect for the opponent.
6. Respect for the moral integrity to win, because we work the hardest to be the best team.
7. Respect for the team shirt, the club, and its history. Pride.



The Ten Commandments of *"THE VIKINGS WAY"*

1. **RESPECT.** Understand that we are always in the view of the public. Inappropriate actions and behavior have repercussions.
2. **SPIRIT.** Technique can only be perfected through sacrifice. All of the players at Vikings Soccer Club can play soccer, but they must also have the enthusiasm to aggressively defend and recover the ball. Only with the ball can we play the attacking soccer we enjoy.
3. **BALANCE.** Understand that the team works as a whole unit. For Example: Fullbacks cannot attack when someone is in their attacking position. We must attack with deception, but be aware of our teammates to avoid unnecessary risk.
4. **FREEDOM.** Although we will always maintain freedom positionally, we will accept our responsibilities for the specifics of our position.
5. **ZONES.** Defending in zones will be learned, practiced, and played. It is necessary to the development of the best possible players.
6. **TEMPO.** Vikings players will learn what it means to control the tempo of the game. The game is meant to be played at changing speeds and deception, which requires the ability to maintain possession and control of the ball.
7. **MENTALITY.** We cannot and should not dwell on past championships. We are changing the perception of our club by moving forward to attempt to achieve even loftier goals such as national championships.
8. **MOBILITY.** Our players must remain mobile at all times. Interchange of position and constant movement are required to play Vikings Soccer. Our movement will disrupt and complicate things for our opponents and allow us to enjoy the freedom we want in attack.
9. **INTELLIGENCE.** In soccer, brute force or pure speed will never supersede the importance of understanding. Players who listen to instruction and think about the game will raise their game to a higher level.
10. **WORK ETHIC.** In Soccer, the best club does not always win, and the lesser club does not always lose. To win consistently, the club has to play well. To play well, the club must work hard and prepare properly during the week. Preparation alone will not guarantee victory. However, we will feel a sense of satisfaction knowing we did everything possible to accomplish our goal. A player's attitude must adhere to a strong work ethic in soccer as in life.