

Hamptons United Soccer Club

Parents Code of Conduct

Parents

At HUSC we fully appreciate the role of the parent/guardian in a child's development and understand that being a good parent is often as difficult as being a good soccer player.

A parent/guardian has more influence on a young player than any other individual and we therefore encourage you to be a positive role model, not just for your own children, but all of those associated with the club. Your encouragement and good example will do more to ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline than any other influence.

At Hamptons United, we work incredibly hard to promote a fun, yet challenging environment where our players can appropriately develop both their body and mind. A parental understanding of the following is key to the long term success of the club and more importantly its players.

Please read the code of conduct below, and if you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to us.

1. **Be positive at all times**

If a child thinks of sport negatively, it will reflect in their enthusiasm to have fun...isn't that why we are all here? Please try to teach each child the values of hard work and an honest effort, remembering that the results are just part of the process in becoming a role model to others.

2. **Don't be a sideline coach or ref**

Children learn more by example than by criticism and therefore commenting on either coaches or referees during games or practices will not be tolerated. Shouting and criticism during play is confusing for anyone, let alone a child as it negatively effects the environment that we are trying to create for our players. Please aim to teach each player to be gracious in victory and to turn defeat into victory by learning and working toward improvement.

3. **Demonstrate a positive attitude to your opponents**

They are your opponent, not your enemy. Please take care to show good hospitality at home and to represent Hamptons United Soccer in a positive fashion when visiting other clubs. Never allow yourself to be drawn into a verbal disagreement with other parents or coaches and remember that no one has ever regretted letting 'cooler heads prevail'.

4. **Support the decisions of our coaching staff and referees**

Please remember that all volunteer coaches are giving up their time and making a commitment to provide positive environment for the children. The club also employs professional coaches. All volunteers and professional coaches have undergone a full background check. Our professional coaches have age appropriate soccer coaching qualifications, as well as participating in weekly coaching education. As with parenting, coaching styles will vary from coach to coach and we request that you understand these differences. Please always be helpful and support our coaching staff.

Referees at your child's game are there because they love the game. They are trying their best to support the kids in their enjoyment of the game. Under no circumstance should a parent address a referee other than to say thank you at the end of the game. As in all sports, we ask you to understand that referees do make mistakes. This is youth soccer, and there are no replays so please accept the referee's decisions.

5. **If your child has a serious or fragile medical condition**

It is your responsibility to inform the coach at the start of practice. If a medical condition involves the intervention of medication, we request that a parent/guardian stay at the field at all times to provide treatment and can transport to a medical facility if required. Please use good judgment and follow the advice of your physician.

While it is understandable that siblings may be practicing on other fields or in other activities, we request that there is a parent/guardian at the field at all times. If this isn't possible, please provide the club coach with a contact name and number in case of an emergency. If an emergency should occur and a parent/guardian isn't reachable, the coach will use their discretion in providing your child with appropriate medical care and you will be responsible for any costs that may be incurred.

6. **Smoking and consuming alcohol**

Is strictly prohibited at any Hamptons United Soccer Field at all times.

7. **Punctuality**

A lot of time and effort is spent preparing an appropriate session for the players and lateness can often disrupt the flow and outcome of each activity, please try to arrive on time and where possible 10 minutes early. Punctuality is particularly important on game days. It is your responsibility to contact the coach if you are not going to make a game or practice or are going to be late.

8. **Questions, and constructive criticism are welcome, how else can we improve!**

We do however ask that this is addressed through the appropriate channels. 24 hours after a game or practice, please feel free to call or email the club and we will be willing to discuss any concerns and take action where necessary.