



# Sandy Parks & Recreation

## Soccer Sportsmanship Rules

1. **Application:** "Sportsmanship Rules and Code of Conduct" apply to all Sandy City Recreation coaches, players, parents, and spectators. They are not disputable. Sandy City will enforce these rules and penalties to their fullest extent.
2. **Code of Conduct:**
  - A. ALL DECISIONS OF THE OFFICIAL ARE FINAL even if they are incorrect. Only the coach designated prior to the game may discuss the matter with the official. No one shall discuss any decision reached by an official in a confrontational manner. If you have concerns with your official, please contact the coordinator of your league.
  - B. Players, coaches, parents, and spectators may receive warnings or be ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior or violating rules that would yield a yellow or red card.
  - C. Be a role model of fair play. Discourage unfair gamesmanship.
  - D. Alcoholic beverages, drugs and smoking are prohibited on all school property and city sports fields.
  - E. No theft, vandalism, or abuse of playing equipment or facilities will be tolerated.
  - F. No one shall at any time physically lay a hand upon, shove, strike, chest butt or verbally attack any player, coach, parent, spectator, official, or recreation staff before, during, or after the game. Verbal attacks include threats, attempts to incite, provoke, insult, abuse, trash talk or taunt by word gestures or signs any opponents, spectators, coaches, officials, or recreation staff before, during and after the game.
3. **Coach's Responsibilities:**
  - A. The coach will read and acknowledge his/her understanding and commitment to abide by the "Sportsmanship Rules and Code of Conduct" and all penalties associated with the violation of these rules. The coach has an on-going responsibility to inform all assistant coaches, players, and their parents (including those who are added to the roster during the season) of the "Sportsmanship Rules and Code of Conduct" and penalties associated with the violation of these rules.
  - B. Coaches will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes the respect of the participants and the public.
  - C. The coach is responsible for the actions of the team, assistant coaches, parents, and spectators before, during and after the game. The coach should make reasonable attempts to stop abusive or taunting spectators before the officials need to take action.
  - D. Coaches should leave with the team. The presence of the coaches and parents after a game often prevents altercations and dangerous situations from developing.
4. **Parents' Responsibilities:** Parents must recognize the important role they have in any game situation. When emotions are high heated words or actions directed at officials, coaches, players, or spectators can, and have resulted in hostile and/or dangerous circumstances. Parents are responsible to inform their guests of "Sportsmanship Rules and Code of Conduct" and to use reasonable attempts to stop abusive or taunting spectators before the coach or officials needs to take action.
5. **Warnings and Ejections:** a warning is used to caution participants, while an ejection results in the person's dismissal from the field/park. If any participants who receive two warnings in one game will be ejected from the game. Warnings and ejections may be tracked throughout the season. Penalties may be issued before, during, or after a game by an Official, or Coordinator to players, coaches, parents, or spectators. A second sportsmanship-related penalty may result in the person's dismissal from the game and possible future suspensions. Examples of actions that may result in a sportsmanship-related penalty or ejection include, but are not limited to:
  - A. A person **may** receive a warning for committing any of the following offenses:
    - is guilty of unsporting behavior
    - shows dissent by word or action
    - persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
    - delays the game or restart of play
    - deliberately enters the field of play without the referee's permission
    - fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free-kick, or throw in
  - B. A person **may** receive an ejection for committing any of the following offenses:
    - is guilty of serious foul play/violent conduct
    - spits on an opponent or any other person
    - uses offensive or insulting or abusive language
    - denies the opposing team a goal or opportunity by deliberately handling ball
    - denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to opponent by offence punishable by a free kick or penalty kick
6. **Consequences/Penalties:**
  - A. During the game: A participant who receives a warning may continue to play in the match. If a player receives an ejection, they must immediately leave the park. The player who has been ejected can be replaced by another eligible player.
  - B. Penalties may include but shall not be limited to simple warnings from the Official, Site Supervisor or Coordinator, immediate ejection from the game and playing facility, termination of games, suspensions from all Sandy City Recreation soccer games. A more serious penalty need not be preceded by a less serious penalty.
  - C. Anyone ejected from a game must leave the game immediately and may not return on that date. Failure to do so will carry a penalty of suspension for the season and/or game forfeiture. Any ejection from a game will result in that person's suspension from the team's next scheduled game. The violator may not attend or be present in any manner at a game from which he/she has been suspended. If a second ejection occurs during the season, the penalty shall be a suspension for the remainder of the season.
  - D. Continuous ejections/suspensions may result in suspension from all Sandy City Recreation programs for life.
7. **Disciplinary and Appeal Process:** Any player, coach, parent, or other participant determined guilty of a violation of these "Sportsmanship Rules and Code of Conduct" by an Official or Site Supervisor may appeal his/her case for a full review. At the review, the body reviewing the matter may at its sole discretion determine and impose additional disciplinary action if found necessary under the circumstances. The reviewing body shall review the original infraction/penalty and any discipline imposed.