

Code of Conduct for HFSC Recreational Games

By registering a child as a participant in HFSC games, the registered child and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the registered child agree to abide by the terms of this "Code of Conduct".

Any person that acts as a coach (formally or informally) for an HFSC team agrees to abide by the terms of the Code of Conduct.

Section I - Issuing of "Yellow" and "Red" Cards by a referee

A yellow card (caution) may be issued by a referee whenever the rules of the game or the Code of Conduct are abused by a player, coach or spectator. A yellow card is intended to warn an individual to "calm down" and/or play fairly.

A red card may be issued by a referee whenever serious, persistent, or blatant misconduct occurs by a player, coach or spectator. A red card results in an immediate ejection for the offending party. Any player or coach that receives a red card must immediately leave the vicinity of the playing field. Anyone receiving a red card will receive a minimum one game suspension. Red cards are reviewed by the commissioner, before the player or coach is allowed to participate or attend another game.

A referee may issue a yellow or red card to a player's coach, if a parent/guardian of a player abuses the Code of Conduct or the "FIFA Laws of the Game - 1998". At the referee's discretion, the referee may also declare a forfeit or suspend a game if a parent/guardian of a player or a spectator abuses the Code of Conduct or the FIFA Laws of the Game.

In all cases, the rulings and decisions of the referee regarding the facts connected with play are FINAL. The referee may only change a decision upon realizing that it is incorrect or, at his discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee, providing that he has not restarted play or he has declared that the game is over.

The Board of Commissioners shall be the grievance committee and shall have original jurisdiction and plenary power to settle and adjudicate all grievances, per the by-laws of the Homewood-Flossmoor Soccer Club. By a two-thirds majority, the soccer club may mandate the suspension or expulsion of any official or member of the club that is found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct.

Section II - Verbal Warning and "Yellow Card" violations of the Rules of Conduct

A verbal warning or yellow card may be issued to player or coach, at the Referees' discretion, should any person violate any of the following rules:

- a) Any violation of the Laws of the Game as established in the "FIFIA Laws of the Game - 1998", which is identified in the rules as being as yellow card offense.
- b) Any player, coach or spectator deemed guilty of "unsportsmanlike behavior" as determined by the referee.
- c) The failure by any player, coach or spectator to follow the direction of the game referee.
- d) Any player, coach, spectator, parent/guardian that enters the field of play during a game without the permission of the referee. In the event of a serious injury to a player, the referee shall allow the coach and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the injured player onto the field after stopping play.

Section III - "Red Card" violations of the Rules of Conduct

A red card may be issued to a player or coach, at the Referees' discretion, should a person violate any of the following rules:

- a) Any violation of the Laws of the Game as established in the "FIFA Laws of the Game - 1998", which is identified in the rules as being a "red card offense".
- b) Any behavior or action by any player, coach or spectator that causes a party to receive two yellow cards during the same game shall be considered to have received a red card.
- c) Any player that the referee deems to be guilty of serious foul play.
- d) Any player, coach or spectator the referee deems to be guilty of violent conduct.
- e) Any player, coach or spectator the referee has determined to be using offensive,

insulting or abusive language or behavior.

f) Any player, coach or spectator that spits on another player or any other person.

Section IV - Misconduct Toward Game Officials (USYA Rule #3041)

Misconduct against a referee may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to and from the match. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties of a game official as a referee.

Referee assault is an intentional act of violence at or upon a referee. **Referee abuse** is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact, which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referees' property or equipment.

Referee Abuse period of suspension when assault:

The player, coach, manager or official committing the offense is automatically suspended one (1) year from the time of the assault, unless serious injuries are inflicted, then the minimum suspended period will be at least five (5) years. When the player, coach, manager or official committing the referee assault is an adult and the referee is a minor (17 or younger), then the minimum suspension period is three (3) years, but if circumstances warrant, may provide a longer period of suspension. Law enforcement officials will be called should a referee assault occur.

Referee Abuse:

The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches within the rules of that competition. The National State Association adjudicating the matter may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant (e.g., habitual offenders).

Section V - For the Good of the Game, always:

a) Play fair.

- b) Observe the laws of the game.
- c) Respect opponents, teammates, referees, officials and spectators.
- d) Accept defeat with dignity.
- e) Promote the interests of soccer.
- f) Reject corruption, drugs, racism, violence and other dangers to the sport.
- g) Help others to resist corrupting pressures.
- h) Denounce those who attempt to discredit soccer.
- i) Honor those who defend soccer's good reputation.