

## **Sacred Heart Soccer Association Parent Expectations and Commitments**

Parental support is an important foundation of the Sacred Heart Soccer Association program. Parents must make a fundamental commitment to support their children in their soccer efforts. They must reinforce the importance of the commitment made by their children and help the child fulfill their commitment. This is crucial to the overall learning process for our players. Without it, players may get “Mixed Signals” about the overall importance of commitment and responsibility.

To help our children get the most out of competitive sports, we need to instill in them that winning in the game is important but to be a winner in life is more important. We need to help them maximize their efforts, continue to learn and improve, and refuse to let mistakes (or fear of making mistakes) stop them.

Let your child know you appreciate it when he or she tries hard even if unsuccessful. Ask rather than tell. Try to get your child to talk about his play rather than telling him what you think about it. Ask open-ended questions to get them to talk. Recognize hard work and let the coaches’ critic their play.

Your number one job is to fill the players and coach’s emotional tanks. Encourage them regardless of what happens in the game.

Parents therefore agree to:

1. Remember that players participate to have fun and that the game is for players not parents.
2. Refrain from coaching players during games and practices from the sidelines. Parents are spectators – they are there to enjoy the matches.
3. Be a good role model. Honor the game when you attend matches and encourage other parents to honor the game as well.
4. Keep winning and losing in perspective.
5. Respect the coach’s decisions.
6. Enjoy the experience and take an active part in your child’s development.
7. Stay away from the players’ bench area under all conditions.
8. Conduct yourselves properly at all times when players from the club are involved. The club and coaches will not tolerate embarrassment and indiscretion at games and tournaments.
9. Respect opponents as if they were a gift that forces us to play to our highest potential. We try hard to win but not at the expense of demeaning our opponent.
10. Leave the coaching to the coaches. You have entrusted the care of your player to these coaches and they need to be free to do their job.
11. Parents are not allowed to approach the coach after a game for discussions about playing time, playing positions, etc. Conferences should be scheduled for another time.
12. Consider and agree to the time and financial commitments of the team and club.
13. Abide by the rules of the game, club, leagues, facilities, tournaments, team and coach.
14. **NEVER FORGET THAT I REPRESENT SACRED HEART SOCCER!!!!**

I agree to abide by the aforementioned rule and guidelines and if I fail to abide by them, I shall be subject to disciplinary actions by the Rules and Guidelines Enforcement Committee.

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Signature (Print/Sign)

Date