

# MSA Policy Manual – Tournaments

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## 26. Code of Ethics for Players (4.7)

- a. I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at all times.
- b. I will remember that soccer is an opportunity to learn and have fun.
- c. I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol; and expect everyone to refrain from their use at all soccer games.
- d. I will do the best I can each day, remembering that all players have talents and weaknesses the same as I do.
- e. I will treat my coaches, other players and coaches, game officials, other administrators, and fans with respect at all times; regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- f. I will concentrate on playing soccer. Always giving my best effort.
- g. I will play by the rules at all times.
- h. I will at all times control my temper, resisting the temptation to retaliate.
- i. I will exercise self control.
- j. Conduct during competition towards play of the game and all officials shall be in accordance with appropriate behavior and in accordance with FIFA's "Laws of the Game", and in adherence to MSA rules.
- k. While traveling, shall conduct themselves so as to bring credit to themselves and their team.
- l. **Alcohol, illegal drugs and unauthorized prescription drugs shall not be possessed, consumed or distributed before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex.**

Failure to comply with the MSA Code of Ethics may result in the suspension of the privilege to participate in MSA sanctioned events, for the following periods:

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- **1st offense suspension minimum fifteen (15) days to a maximum of Five (5) years**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> offense suspension for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of Ten (10) years**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> offense suspension for a minimum of five (5) years to a maximum of Twenty five (25) years.**

**NOTE: Any individual charged with a violation of this Code of Ethics, except for cautions and send-offs as stated in the Laws of the Game, Tournament Rules or MSA Disciplinary policy including allegations of referee abuse or assault, shall be afforded due process as defined in MSA's rules before the implementation of any suspension.**

## **27. Code of Ethics for Players Coaches/Volunteers (4.7)**

- a. I will never place the value of winning before the safety and welfare of all players
- b. I will always show respect for players, other coaches, and game officials.
- c. I will lead by example, demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship at all times.
- d. I will demonstrate knowledge of the rules of the game, and teach these rules to my players.
- e. I will never use abusive or insulting language. I will treat everyone with dignity.
- f. I will not tolerate inappropriate behavior, regardless of the situation.
- g. I will not allow the use of anabolic agents or stimulants, drugs, tobacco, or alcohol by any of my players.
- h. I will never knowingly jeopardize the eligibility and participation of a student-athlete.
- i. Youth have a greater need for example than criticism. I will be the primary soccer role model.
- j. I will at all times conduct myself in a positive manner.
- k. Coaching is motivating players to produce their best effort, inspiring players to learn, and encouraging players to be winners.

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- i. Coach's actions on sidelines during games shall be in the spirit of "good sportsmanship" at all times. Profanity, profane gestures, arguing, inciting disruptive behavior by spectators and/or players, or any conduct not in the spirit of good sportsmanship, shall require disciplinary action from the affiliate.
- m. **Alcohol, illegal drugs and unauthorized prescription drugs shall not be possessed, consumed or distributed before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex.**

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## **28. Code of Ethics for Parents and Spectators (4.7)**

- a. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, game officials, and administrators at all times.
- b. I will place the emotional and physical well being of all players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- c. I will support the coaches, officials, and administrators working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- d. I will remember that the game is for the players, not for the adults.
- e. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, game officials, administrators, and fans with respect.

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- f. I will always be positive.
- g. I will always allow the coach to be the only coach.
- h. I will not get into arguments with the opposing team's parents, players, or coaches.
- i. Unless summoned by a game official, I will not come onto the field for any reason during the game.
- j. I will not criticize game officials.
- k. **Alcohol, illegal drugs and unauthorized prescription drugs shall not be possessed, consumed or distributed before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex.**

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**NOTE: Any individual charged with a violation of this Code of Ethics, except for cautions and send-offs as stated in the Laws of the Game, Tournament Rules or MSA Disciplinary policy including allegations of referee abuse or assault, shall be afforded due process as defined in MSA's rules before the implementation of any suspension.**

## 29. Awards Program (6.5)

1. **Coach of the Year:** Each year MSA will select a Coach of the Year for Boys and Girls in the following categories:

**Recreational – Boys**  
**Recreational – Girls**  
**Select – Boys**  
**Select – Girls**