

Almaden FC Code of Conduct

Coach Code of Conduct

- Enthusiastically support and practice “everyone plays” and positive coaching philosophies. Ensure that your players’ soccer experience is a positive one. Winning is only one part of that experience.
- Be reasonable in your demands on the young player’s time, energy, enthusiasm, and their performance on the soccer field. Keep informed about sound principles of coaching and growth and development principles relating to children.
- Communicate with parents on a regular basis in a clear and concise manner to convey season goals and team objectives.
- Be a positive role model whenever you are around players and parents. Exercise professional decorum and conduct at all practices and games, including team kickoff meetings, team dinners, and team end-of-year parties. Socializing with parents and players outside these parameters is inappropriate (really???).
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents and their coaches. Impress upon your players that they must abide by the rules of the game at all times.
- Develop team respect for referees. Almaden FC supports a zero tolerance policy as far as questioning or harassment of referees.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their sideline. Enlist the support of your team’s parents to instill the proper attitudes and values in the players.
- Check your equipment to make sure it meets safety standards and is appropriate to the age and ability of your players. Report any facility/field safety concerns to the appropriate authority.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
- Abide by the rules of leagues and tournaments in which your team participates. Engage a field marshal or tournament official if you feel a situation is getting out of control.

It is very important that the coaches work together towards a common goal, the positive development of the players. Any coaches who negatively impact the team will be asked to explain their comments to the training director and may be removed from the program.

Player Code of Conduct

- Be early to practice, have soccer gear on and ready and greet the coach when you arrive.
- Give 100% at practices and games, do your best to help others. Practice footwork (dribbling/juggling) at home - ask for ideas from your coach.
- Remember uniforms and equipment on game days. Bring home and away shirts.
- Arrive at least 45 minutes early to games.
- Watch the game and encourage players on the field when a substitute on the bench. Don't bother the coach with requests.
- Play soccer for the fun of it. Remember the goals of the game are to have fun, improve skills, and feel good about your contribution to the team. (Don't be a showoff or a ball-hog.)
- Play by the rules of the game and show respect to all coaches, referees, and tournament officials.
- Never argue with or complain about referee calls or decisions. Almaden FC supports a zero tolerance policy concerning harassment of referees.
- Control your temper and, most of all, resist the temptation to retaliate when you feel you have been wronged.
- Concentrate on playing soccer and affecting the outcome of the game with your best effort. Work equally as hard for your team as for yourself.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Be a good sport by cheering all good plays – on your team and your opponent's team. Do not blame other players for their performance; focus on your own contribution to the team.
- Always conduct yourself in a manner befitting someone representing themselves, their family, and the Almaden FC.
- Cheer for and support the other Almaden FC teams so we are showing up as a big family at tournaments and league games.
- Watch soccer on TV at home so you can learn from the professional players and their moves!

Parent Code of Conduct

Please, as parents, it is very important that you understand that you have a very important role to play in your child's development and participation in the program. Your child's expectations and opinions are often formed by your behaviors.

- Remember children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours. Do not force an unwilling child to participate.
- Teach your player that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than a victory. Help your player work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship – even in defeat your child will be a winner.
- Be a positive role model whenever you are around players. Set a good example – do not yell at, ridicule, or criticize your child or any other player. Instead applaud good plays by your team and by those of the opposing team.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sporting activities.
- Show respect to all coaches, referees, and tournament officials. Almaden FC supports a zero tolerance policy as to questioning and harassment of referees. Leave conflict resolution to the field marshals or tournament officials.
- Do not coach from the sidelines! Our professional coaches use all of the training sessions to teach the children how to play the game. At game time, these moves and principles are being used. Your interaction with the players will be detrimental to the game and undermine the professional coaches authority.
- Initiating negative discussions about the program with other parents and players will not be tolerated. If you do choose to take this approach, then your child along with you may be asked to leave the program. Please see the section communication for further advise.

All families will be required to agree to the Player and Parent Code of Conduct when they register their child.