



## Coach Guidelines and Expectations

### Fall Season 2011

Thank you for agreeing to coach a Cincinnati Hills SAY recreational soccer team. We sincerely appreciate your willingness to volunteer your time and trust that this will be a great experience. To help you better understand a few nuances of the SAY Area, we have put together a few important tips and guidelines.

#### 1) Overall Expectations:

- You are the teams' #1 mentor and are in a unique position to create a great soccer experience for your players and parents. As such, it is important that all our coaches provide positive instruction and encouragement to all players where they can learn the great game from both a physical (skills) and mental (focus, attitude, teamwork, sportsmanship) perspective. It is also important to maintain an open and friendly dialogue with your parents where you can address issues as they arise.
- All coaches are encouraged to have a parent meeting at their first practice.
  - Introduce yourself and your assistant coach
  - Review parent agreement form (SAY Area philosophy) and have at least one parent per player sign it
  - Review the practice and game schedules
  - Reinforce the need to arrive at practice on time and 20 minutes prior to game time.
  - Review what is required for the right equipment (soccer ball, water bottle, shin guards and uniform)
- Coaches are not permitted to add any player to his/her team (practice sessions or games) that is not officially listed on his/her officially signed team roster.
- Coaches are required to have a copy of the team's official signed roster, signed medical forms and parent agreements on their possession at ALL games and practices. Random roster checks will be conducted by the referees. Failure to have your official roster during a roster check will result in an automatic game forfeit.
- There must be at least two adults present (at least one certified coach) at every practice.
- All coaches are required to be SAY certified (attending a clinic at each playing level) and need to complete the volunteer risk assessment form on-line at [cincinnatihillssaysoccer.org](http://cincinnatihillssaysoccer.org).
- Coaches are not permitted to re-schedule games. Games can only be re-scheduled by your District soccer organization due to weather or if you do not have the min. players required due to a school or religious event.

#### 2) Game Management:

- Encourage good sportsmanship from your players and demonstrate it via your own conduct. Greet the other coach and praise the efforts of players on both teams.
- Read and understand the laws of the game. At the Wings and above level, it is critical that you clearly understand the laws covering off-sides, handling (hand balls), fouls and misconduct.
- Shouting and/or yelling at players is not permitted. Abusive/aggressive language will not be tolerated and will result in a caution (yellow card). Positive instruction only.
- Running up and down the sidelines is not encouraged. Get a chair, sit down and enjoy the game.
- A maximum of three coaches are permitted on the sidelines at any time.
- A minimum of one certified coach MUST be present at a game and/or practice.
- Coaches are not permitted on the field during game time without permission from the referee.
- Coaches must stay between the half-way line and 18 yard line (outside of the penalty box) during game time
- Each player MUST play a minimum of half the game (2 quarters).
- Substitutions should be placed at the center line and should only enter the field when the referee signals.
- Players with casts of any type will not be permitted to play. Also, players with earrings will be asked to take them off. Band aids placed over newly pierced ears (with earrings in place) are not permitted.
- Referee calls are not to be questioned during game time. Any questions or clarifications may be addressed respectfully between quarters or at the end of the game.
- Weather: Lightning OR thunder requires that everyone leave the field immediately and wait 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder or flash of lightning. Fields with lightning detectors...MUST wait until the device sounds.
- If there are any spectator issues, referees are instructed to work through the coach to bring these to resolution. Refusing to do so will result in a caution (yellow card) and potential send-off (red card)