

## **FIFA (The world governing body for soccer) Parents' code**

### **The Parents' Code:**

- Remember that children play soccer for their own enjoyment, not for that of their parents.
- Encourage rather than force or oblige.
- Encourage children to always respect the rules of the game.
- Never reprimand a child for a technical error or for losing a match.
- Remember that children learn from example.
- Encourage both teams.
- Congratulate both teams irrespective of the result of the match.
- Help to eradicate all physical and verbal abuse from soccer.
- Respect the decisions of the coaches and referees and teach the children to do the same thing.
- Support, encourage and help volunteers, coaches, organizers and officials in their work. Without them, the children would not have the opportunity to play soccer.
- Ensure fair play in all circumstances.

## **North Carolina State Soccer Association Guidelines for Parents**

### **Guidelines for Soccer Parents:**

- Cheer
- Relax and Let Them Play
- Yelling Directions = Distraction
- Remember, They Are Your Kids
- Have Reasonable Expectations
- Meet with the Coaches

### **Behavior:**

- Children want cheerleaders to applaud their success, not adults yelling instructions. Think of the soccer field as a playground and not as a sports venue.
- What's appropriate at a sport stadium with adult athletes is NOT appropriate for young children at play.
- Focus on the process of playing and not the outcome.

### **Good Questions on the Way Home:**

- Did you have fun today?
- What did you think you did well today?
- Did you learn any new moves?
- Did you make new friends today?

**"Please let the children PLAY, please let them PLAY" -Dr. T. Fleck**