



Oceanside Youth Soccer Society

www.oceansideyouthsoccer.ca

Coaches:

Welcome and welcome back! We have another exciting season ahead of us but we would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all the players, parents and board members to "Thank You" for your time and effort, your dedication and commitment by stepping forward to coach this year.

The Oceanside Youth Soccer Society's Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations specifically state that Coaches have the following responsibilities:

- To foster, develop, promote and govern the game of soccer among youths within District 69.
- To teach sportsmanship and emphasize fair play at all times. To teach respect for officials, coaches and players at all times.
- To be firm, fair, and consistent in behavior control without using physical force or verbal abuse.
- To demonstrate the ability to improve players skills through regular practice, to endorse good sportsmanship, and to make decisions that benefit the team as a whole.

OYSS believes that the National Coaches Certification Program is an integral part of achieving these objectives and encourages all coaches to take advantage of these courses (at no cost to the coach). In By 2016, it is mandatory for Coaches to have the age-appropriate coaching training, provided by BC Soccer and OYSS. Contact our Technical Director or an OYSS Executive member for information, or check the OYSS website.

Constitution and Bylaws of the Oceanside Youth Soccer Society

The OYSS Constitution is provided on our website.

Risk Management

All coaches must have a criminal record check completed and has been mandated by BC Soccer. We believe that it is wise for each coach to ensure that at least one other adult is present for any team activity (in the event of injury, etc). Make the parents aware of this.

Medical History Forms

Forms have been provided (included in Parents handout) and you should collect these early in the season. They should be kept available whenever you are with the team in the event of an Emergency.

Practice Times

Try to Schedule practices so that all players can attend. Practice fields can be booked through the RDN at Oceanside Place.

Outdoor lighted field practice time will be available in October.

Indoor practice facilities at school gyms are available at your discretion. Please contact an OYSS Executive member for the contact person and phone number.

Equipment

Coaches will be given a bag of age-appropriate soccer balls, a game bench (for U9/10 and up), a Coach's bag, cones, and goalie gloves (U9/10 and up). Equipment is usually handed out 1 week before the season, look for an email to coaches. U6-U8s will receive a Tshirt jersey to be worn at all games. U9/10 and up will receive a jersey that must be worn during games and Must be returned at the end of the season. The Coach is responsible for gathering and returning jerseys to the OYSS Equipment Manager.

We recommend that the Pony Division Coaches collect their team's uniforms immediately following the Wind up Tournament at the end of the Season. This seems to work the best in conjunction with presenting the awards to each player. Coaches of U11-U18 teams can also collect their uniforms at the final game of the season, was them and return them to the equipment manager.

UNIFORMS ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR PRACTICES. PLEASE DISCOURAGE THIS

Parent Participation

OYSS encourages you to involve the parents and get help with:

- Phoning Manager
 - Issuing/Collecting uniforms
 - Schedule Oranges or Refreshments
 - Social Director to arrange team gatherings
 - Help with line changes, goalie equipment changes as requested by you
- ALL** - Help with nets (before and after the game), ball and equipment retrieval, and general clean up after games and practices.

You have volunteered to Coach, not be a child minder. Encourage parents to get involved. We need a constant influx of new people to keep our organization strong. Your help in involving parents in games, practices and other activities will encourage further participation.

Referees

Most referees officiating our games are OYSS players are also learning. They need and deserve our cooperation and respect. The referee's call is final, and abuse (verbal or otherwise) of these officials will not be tolerated. If there is a problem with refereeing during a match, report the issue/incident to our Referee Coordinator. Coaches are free to consult with the referee, but this should be done in a non-confrontational manner. If a parent or player is challenging calls, the referee will likely approach you, the coach, to request that the offending individual be asked to refrain from doing so. A second incident will result in a request to the coach to have that individual remove themselves from the field and vicinity. Any such incidents will be reported to the OYSS Executive Board. The OYSS Referee Coordinator appreciates coach's feedback on referee performance (both constructive comments and positive feedback).

U11-U18

All Players and Coaches must remain 2 meters back from the sidelines to enable the linesperson to do their job. In the event that a Referee does not show up for a game, the coach may choose to fulfill the role. It is likely preferable to have a competent parent or other individual replace the referee to avoid claims of bias.

Safety and First Aid

Pony Division

Coaches will be provided with a Coaches bag that includes basic first aid equipment.

U-11 to U-18

Coaches are provided with a basic first aid kit. Please take it to all practices and games. It is considered wise to have requested that a parent with a cellular telephone bring it to games and practices.

All Divisions

Coaches should make reasonable efforts to prevent injuries from happening. This includes checking out the field prior to play for things such as holes or broken glass. If you discover a problem please fix it or relocate the play. Plan and supervise the player's activities responsibly. Don't allow the children to conduct themselves in a manner likely to endanger others. If a player is playing dangerously (tripping, kicking, or charging at others), please caution him and prevent him from doing so. Young players could potentially get into hazardous situations if left unsupervised so make sure an adult is supervising their activities. Part of your supervision means making sure the children get home from the games and practices. Every year we receive complaints from parents that their child has been left alone at a field or practice site. It is the parent's responsibility to get their children to and from practice; however, if for some reason the parent is not there for the child it is up to you to make suitable arrangements to ensure the child gets home safely. Do not leave the child unattended. Either wait with the child or make arrangements for his safe return home.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARENTS OF YOUR POLICY AT THE START OF THE SEASON REGARDING THIS ISSUE.

You may wish to allow 15 minutes after the practice and if the parent is not there, then make arrangements to have the child taken home by another parent or yourself.

Plan activities that are safe and suitable for the children, don't plan activities that might cause injury. For example: don't practice diving headers near a gym wall. Don't do weight bearing activities that might

damage a child's back. For instance: don't let a 50-pound child carry a 100 pound child on his back. It may strengthen his legs but break his back. The application of common sense will guide you well. Check equipment. A ball with a tear or loose flap when headed can cause an eye injury. Discard the ball. Check players' cleats to make sure they are proper. Nylon cleats sometimes break or become sharp with wear and become unsafe. Make sure player's shoelaces are tied. You may have to tie the laces for the five and six year olds. It prevents a trip which could cause an injury.

Coaches on the Field

The U6/U7 Coaches are allowed to be on the field at all times. The intent is to guide and encourage the young players. U8 Coaches are permitted on the field for the first 6 weeks. Variations to this rule can be made with the agreement of the Coaches in this division and the Pony Coordinator. Please remember that you cannot interfere with the play. Coaches for the U9 and older age groups are not permitted on the field and of course are not permitted to interfere with the play. Balls retrieved from out of bounds should be given to the referee or an eligible player as quickly as possible. The coach or parent must not retain possession of the ball while instructing players. Instructions should not interfere with the rapid continuation of play.

Promote Opportunities for Player Development

This may be as simple as encouraging the players to practice the skills and techniques that you are teaching through the week. Player's skills and enjoyment of the game increases with more time spent playing and practicing. Additional opportunities exist locally for player development with our new development program, check the website for information

Have an Enjoyable Season and Good Luck to you all!

If you need help, please contact your age coordinator or any of our OYSS board members. If you think something is not right, please suggest a solution! Working together we can make this club enjoyable for all!