



Parent Code of Conduct

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WHY A CODE OF CONDUCT? Sport builds character and shapes attitudes. Adults involved in sport are obliged to help youth develop a positive self-image and promote respect for rules, the role of game officials, and fellow competitors. As valued and important contributors, parents should encourage in young athletes a healthy and constructive attitude toward competition, build a sense of dignity, provide opportunities to learn new skills, and foster their enjoyable participation.

By asking that players, coaches and parents sign a Code of Conduct at the start of the season, BVSS hopes that the guidelines expressed become meaningful and effective.

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- I will not force my child to participate in soccer. I will remember that children play for their enjoyment and gain, not mine.
 - I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will remember that child athletes are not miniature professionals and cannot be judged by profession standards.
 - I will encourage all athletes to play by the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
 - I will express to all athletes that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that they will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or event.
 - I will help all athletes to be true team players by supporting their commitment to attend practices and games.
 - I will offer praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
 - I will never criticize at an athlete for making a mistake or losing a competition. I will instead give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
 - I will model respect for opponents, because without them there would be no game.
 - I will not use bad language, nor will I harass or bully athletes, coaches, officials or other spectators.
 - I will respect the officials' decisions and never openly criticize their performances. I will encourage participants to do the same.
 - I will show respect and appreciation for the volunteer coaches and others who give freely of their time to provide sport activities for my child. I will not publicly question the coach's judgement.
 - I will not give instructions to players -- that is the coach's role.
 - If I am upset by something I will wait 24hours before discussing the issue with the team coach, and will do so in a private and constructive manner.

I acknowledge that this code describes the BVSS vision for parent conduct and I will abide by it to the best of my abilities.

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____