



# Livermore Youth Soccer League



*"Develop, foster and promote an organized youth soccer program to the citizens of the city of Livermore."*

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## memorandum

**Date:** 8/18/2006  
**To:** LYSL Coaches and Trainers  
**Cc:** LYSL High Comp Committee, House Committee, Director of Administration, Technical Director, Livermore Referee Association President  
**From:** Corey L. Nelson, President  
**RE:** EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES/TRAINERS

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### **EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES/TRAINERS**

Everyone is excited about the season coming up. Some teams have already participated in tournaments. The league has both observed and received great feedback on the field behavior of many of our coaches and trainers recently. Sadly, this is not true for everyone. Several coaches/trainers have already been ejected from the field by a referee and are now serving suspensions and probation or received negative reports from events they have attended.

As these issues become known to us, we address them directly with the person(s) involved. A record of the issue is kept. This is most unpleasant for everyone, but necessary to follow up. Sometimes the heat of the moment can get the better of any of us. As adults we understand we must review our behavior and pay the price when appropriate. Hopefully, we learn from the incident.

### **POSITIVE COACHING**

I want to remind everyone that LYSL is a strong supporter of the Positive Coaching Alliance (<http://www.positivecoach.org/>). Not only did we provide three different PCA trainings for the league last year (for the board, the coaches, and the parents), LYSL lives the message. The coaches and trainers are expected to also live the ideals of PCA.

Please review the PCA Roots (<http://www.positivecoach.org/subcontent.aspx?SecID=163>). LYSL's web site has a copy of our expectations of coach which were also handed out on the Coach CD for 2006 as well as posted on our web site's documentation page.

[http://www.lysl.org/documents/LYSL\\_PCA\\_HonorTheGame\\_flier\\_2006.pdf](http://www.lysl.org/documents/LYSL_PCA_HonorTheGame_flier_2006.pdf)

[http://www.lysl.org/documents/PCAccoach\\_job\\_description.pdf](http://www.lysl.org/documents/PCAccoach_job_description.pdf)

Coaches (and trainers on High Comp teams) with passes are members of the league. When they step on the field they are a living representation of all of the members in the league. As such, it is expected that every coach/trainer in the league act professional, adult, positive, and appropriate at all times. Less than appropriate behavior has consequences.

### **SEND OFFS**

Commonly called "red card", coaches are not shown a red card but "sent off". The result is the same. A sent off coach must immediately leave the field and often the park entirely. Do not argue. Send offs are immediate and must be obeyed.

Do not approach the game official after a send off, during or after the game. The coach will be notified of the resulting disciplinary decision for the league and/or the District Disciplinary Committee within the week.

### **SUSPENSIONS**

Something to remember is that when a coach is suspended, the games that s/he serves must be signed off by the center referees of those game to get credit. Suspended coaches are not to attend those games. Have another adult, likely the Asst. Coach, make sure to handle the sign off paperwork. Ask your HC Rep of House AGC for clarification if you need it.

For coaches and trainers with passes for more than one team, suspensions on one team are served with the team that the suspension was earned. However, when a coach or trainer is suspended from one team, ALL their passes will be pulled until the suspension is served. Time for a suspension is only directly served with the original team (games played by the other team(s) do not count, but also may not be attended during the time of the suspension).

### **ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE**

Be aware that the league has the responsibly to review each send off and complaint about coaches/trainers in the league. The league has the right to add additional disciplinary actions upon those given at tournaments and/or the district or state levels. Depending on the frequency and/or seriousness of the offense, the league has and will continue to consider additional games if warranted.

Everyone takes send offs seriously. CYSA-North has new policies to address the scary rise in such matters. Please read the new PIM regarding Referee abuse or assault:

<http://www.cysanorth.org/PIMs/pims.htm#PIM%2006-2%20REFEREE%20ABUSE/REFEREE%20ASSAULT>

### **THREATS**

It is not appropriate to threaten to remove your team from a game because of a referee's decision to card a player or send off a coach. The kids are there to play their game. Do not punish them for a disagreement between adults. Even after an incident, we must keep a cooler head and remember that it only makes matters worse to use the players as pawns out of anger.

### **COACHES SET THE TONE FOR THE TEAM**

The players and the parents take their cues from the behavior of the coach. They mimic and sometimes escalate the anger or inappropriate behavior of the coach. S/he is the leader of the team and must remember to be a positive and sporting one. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of the spectators on the sideline.

### **CUDOS FOR THE RIGHT BEHAVIOR!**

Cudos and THANKS to the many coaches/trainers that do the league and themselves proud every time they step on the field. You are the majority and that is great news. To everyone that continues to act professionally and honor the game, the league and more importantly, you set the right example for the players. You are deeply appreciated. For others, we expect you will serve your suspension time and return to the field with renewed passion to do the right thing from then on.