

Mission Statement

The purpose and intent of the Vilonia Soccer Club (VSC) is to promote the advancement of youth soccer in Vilonia, to encourage the development of player skills and abilities, promote programs that teach individual and team skills, and support the growth of trained coaches and referees. The goal of player participation is to have fun while playing soccer, to develop self-esteem and confidence through skill development while promoting a sense of fair play and good sportsmanship.

The key elements of VSC's soccer experience are developing individual and team skills in all players in a fun, family environment that builds character, competence and confidence.

The VSC adopts P.R.I.D.E. as the values that define its philosophy:
Positive Attitude, Respect, Integrity, Diversity, and Excellence

In order to uphold the P.R.I.D.E. and promote a high level of community spirit, the VSC adopts the following Code of Conduct for all players, parents/guardians, coaches, and referees.

CODE OF CONDUCT

For Coaches, Players, Parents/Spectators and Referees

It is a privilege to be a part of the United States Soccer Federation, United States Youth Soccer Association, and Arkansas State Soccer Association. My action shall always be a positive reflection and credit upon these organizations and their affiliates

PLAYERS:

Players play soccer to have fun, to learn and develop a passion for the game as well as to improve their skills. Players have a responsibility to their team, coach and soccer organization. They are representative of the club as well as the team, coach, parents and the community. Players must maintain a high level of sportsmanship and fair play. Players must have respect for their coach, opponents and the authority of the referee and his/her assistants. All players participating in VSC shall...

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship by example and encourage it from fellow players.
- Play by the rules of the game.
- View playing soccer as an opportunity to learn and have fun.
- Remain respectful toward other players, coaches, referees and spectators.
- Never argue or complain about referees' calls or decisions.
- Make every effort to attend ALL practices and games and arrive on time.
- Maintain an even temperament and resist retaliation.
- Give 100% effort at practice and during games.
- Focus on doing their best in school.
- Not partake in illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco use.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

VSC believes parents play a vital role in the development of youth athletes. Unfortunately, many parents, fans, and spectators don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or non verbal, positive or negative, can have a lasting emotional effect on youth. Parent behavior can directly affect the behavior of their players and the overall attitude of team families. In order to ensure that the principles of sportsmanship, fair play, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators the following Parent Code of Conduct has been established by the VSC.

The standards of behavior identified in this code are not intended to be exhaustive. The participants should be aware that any behavior not specifically described herein but failing to meet the spirit and intent of this code may subject those involved to disciplinary action.

ALL parents shall...

- Encourage good sportsmanship and self-discipline in their children and teammates through example.
- Make athletic participation for their child and others a positive and fun experience.
- Give encouragement and show interest in their child's team.
- Attempt to minimize the pressure of competition and place the emotional and physical well-being of players ahead of a desire to win.
- Encourage their child to show good sportsmanship in every game.
- Be respectful toward coaches, referees, your child, other parents and their children.
- Alert coaches of any player's health conditions.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports activities.
- Refrain from coaching and refereeing "from the sidelines".
- Make every effort to drop off and pick up players at designated practice and game times.

COACHES:

Coaches and assistant coaches are expected to maintain a higher level of sportsmanship, professionalism and integrity both off and on the field. Coaches' primary responsibility is for his/her players to have fun, to develop soccer players and to instill a passion for the game. Your performance as a coach is not measured in wins and losses, but rather in what you teach your players in terms of technique, sportsmanship and fair play. Coaches must maintain respect for the game as well as the referees. Coaches are charged with the responsibility of controlling their players and parents at all times during a match. Coaches lead and teach by example; your players will be a reflection of you.

ALL coaches shall...

- Provide a positive role model for their players and parents by consistently acting in a positive, controlled and mature manner expected of a VSC coach.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and maintain a proper perspective on the purpose of VSC soccer, namely, participation is for the enjoyment and benefit of the players (not the adults).
- Learn the rules of soccer, and earn at least a basic certification.
- Above all else, maintain the safety and well-being of their players.
- Explain to (and remind) parents what is expected of them and their children.
- Provide a positive, enjoyable atmosphere for the players and parents.
- Refrain from open arguments with referees and other coaches.
- Encourage parents to support the team with their presence as much as possible.
- Ensure equitable playing time (as specified in VSC bylaws).
- Provide necessary guidance and equipment at games and practices.
- Discipline players in a FAIR and CONSISTENT manner
- Refrain from making negative comments about other coaches, players, parents and referees.
- Be prepared to deal with injuries in a timely manner by reviewing first aid principles.
- Maintain a consistent practice schedule that is both fun and challenging for the players.

REFEREES:

Referees (including Assistant Referees) are responsible for the safety of the players and coaches during a match. Referees must know the laws of the game and enforce them fairly. They have the responsibility

for upholding the laws and spirit of the game. Referees must show respect for the players, coaches and the game itself.

- Referees are expected to always maintain the utmost respect for the game.
- Referees are expected to conduct themselves honorably at all times and maintain the dignity of his/her position.
- Referees are expected to always honor an assignment or any other contractual obligation.
- Referees are expected to attend training sessions, meetings and clinics so as to know the Laws of the game, their proper interpretation and their application.
- Referees are expected to strive to achieve maximum teamwork with fellow officials.
- Referees are expected to show respect for other referees, coaches and players and never promote criticism of them.
- Referees are expected to be in good physical shape.
- Referees are expected to control players, coaches and parents/spectators effectively by being courteous and considerate without sacrificing fairness.
- Referees are expected to do their utmost to assist fellow officials to better themselves and their work.
- Referees are expected to not make statements about any game except to clarify an interpretation of the Laws of the Game.
- Referees are expected to not discriminate against nor take any undue advantage of individual group on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

*Referee section taken in part from the National Referee Handbook, Policy 531-11, Part II

All participants of VSC shall abide by the Club's Code of Conduct at all times. Inappropriate behavior that is determined to violate this Code of Conduct shall result in Disciplinary Action by the VSC Board of Directors, up to and including, without limitation, expulsion from the game/field, and expulsion from the VSC.