

# CLARENCE SOCCER CLUB, Inc.

## Code of Conduct Policy

### (Adopted 9/17/2000)

#### ***The Mission of the Clarence Soccer Club is as follows:***

Our mission is to generate greater understanding, commitment, involvement and support of the Clarence Soccer Club in order to further develop and promote a quality soccer program for the youth of Clarence.

#### ***Our Vision:***

To become the very best soccer program for youth in Western New York.

#### ***Our goals and objectives to achieve our mission and vision.***

The purpose of the Clarence Soccer Club is as follows:

- ✓ To promote and develop good sportsmanship and fair play through the game of soccer.
- ✓ To promote interest and participation in the game of soccer among the youth of Clarence.
- ✓ To improve the soccer skill of Clarence youth by offering instruction and coaching.
- ✓ To expand the Clarence soccer program by providing the means for each child to grow and develop in the sport of soccer to the best of their ability and desire.
- ✓ To conduct a fair and equitable three-level soccer program by playing House League, BWNV Travel League, and tournament competition.

#### **Code of Conduct**

#### **A. OBJECTIVE**

In as much as the objectives of the Clarence Soccer Club are to promote competitive soccer activities, the development of youth with emphasis on the teaching of soccer skills, the teaching of team play of soccer, and the enhancement of an overall attitude of good sportsmanship, this Code of Conduct is established to accomplish these purposes.

#### **B. RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS**

The objectives can best be achieved through the concerted effort of all individuals who participate in the activities of the Clarence Soccer Club. The benefit to the youth will depend to a large degree on the attitude created by the club, coaches, players, spectators and referees.

The following is a list of examples of unacceptable behavior. Participants may be subject to discipline under this policy if they:

- Intentionally injure or attempt to injure another participant
- Verbally or physically abuse another participant
- Endanger or threaten another participant
- Refuse to comply with the request of a club official, coach, or referee
- Refuse to comply with the policies and rules of the Clarence Soccer Club

Therefore, each participant (coach, parent, referee, spectators, and player) hereby agrees to assume the following responsibilities as a condition of participating in Clarence Soccer Club activities.

1. All participants assume a general responsibility that all of their actions will be consistent with the goals and objectives (listed above) of the Clarence Soccer club. Fair play and good sportsmanship (our number one goal and objective) is required of all participants.
2. Coaches and Referees will be responsible for the fair enforcement of all applicable soccer rules, including but not limited to those involving use of eligible players, minimum playing requirements, and sportsmanlike conduct.
3. Coaches, referees, directors, volunteers, and spectators should serve as appropriate role models for our children.
4. In addition to the personal responsibilities of all spectators under this code to act in a mature and sportsmanlike manner, all coaches will be responsible to control spectators and enforce these rules as they apply to spectators for their respective teams.
5. Actions in violation of these standards should be reported immediately to your team coach or the Director of the specific league.

#### PROCEDURE FOR VIOLATIONS

1. Violations of this code may subject participants to disciplinary action including written warning, suspension from Clarence Soccer Club activities, or of expulsion depending on the severity of the violation. In the event of expulsion, all league fees previously paid will be forfeited.
2. All violations of this code shall be immediately reported to the appropriate League Director (e.g. House League or BWNV). The League Director, in his/her discretion, may ask for written reports of the incident from those having knowledge of the occurrence.
3. The League Director will investigate the matter fully and report it to the President within 48 hours of his first knowledge of the incident if possible. The President can then call the Board of Directors meeting.
4. The Board of Directors will convene a meeting to determine appropriate disciplinary action as soon as practical (within 5 days, if possible) after receiving the investigation report from the League Director. Disciplinary action will require a 2/3 majority of CSC directors present at the meeting.
5. The Board will provide written notice of the Board meeting to the individual who is facing discipline in advance of the meeting and the individual will be invited to attend the meeting. This notice will advise the individual of the nature of the misconduct and the possible or recommended penalties. If the individual facing discipline is a child, notice will go to the parent/guardian.
6. Investigative reports, disciplinary actions, and disciplinary notice to a participant shall be in writing with copies retained by the Clarence Soccer Club, Inc.
7. The appropriate League Director will have the authority to suspend the privileges of a participant pending a decision by the board.

***Please Sign Reverse***

#### **C. PARENT PLEDGE - *Please read and initial each item***

- I pledge to get my child to practice and games on time. I understand that it can be embarrassing for my child to be late and that I may be putting him/her at risk by not providing adequate time for warm up. I will be on time to pick up my child from all games and practices. This shows respect for the coach, and it tells my child that he or she is my top priority. \_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to use positive encouragement to fill my child's Emotional Tank because athletes do their best when their "Emotional Tank" is full. I understand that fewer than 1% of youth sports participants receive college scholarships and that the top three reasons kids play sports are a) to have fun, b) to make new friends, and c) to learn new skills. I understand that the game is for the players, and I will keep sports in the proper perspective. \_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to reinforce the ELM Tree of Mastery with my child (E for Effort, L for Learning and M for bouncing back from Mistakes). Winners are people who make maximum effort, continue to learn and improve, and do not let mistakes, or fear of making mistakes, stop them. I understand that mistakes are an inevitable part of any game and that people learn from their mistakes. I understand that children are born with different abilities and that the true measure is not how my child compares to others but how he/she is doing in comparison to his/her best self. \_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to "Honor the Game." I understand the importance of setting a good example for my child. No matter what others may do, I will show respect for all involved in the game including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans, and officials. I understand that officials make mistakes. If the official makes a "bad" call against my team, I will Honor the Game and be silent! \_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to refrain from yelling out instructions to my child. I understand that this is the coach's job. I understand that games are chaotic times for children trying to deal with fast-paced action and respond to opponents, teammates and coaches. I will limit my comments during the game to encouraging my child and other players for both teams. \_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to refrain from making negative comments about my child's coach in my child's presence. I understand that this plants a negative seed in my child's head that can negatively influence my child's motivation and overall experience. \_\_\_\_\_

**D. AFFIRMATION (Required of all participants)**

***I support the objectives of the Clarence Soccer Club and agree to comply with the terms of this Code of Conduct for the upcoming season. For parents/guardians, I will honor the Parent Pledge in my words and actions.***

Signatures required – A parent/guardian must sign in conjunction with a player.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Player

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Player

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

OTHER PARTICIPANTS Or Volunteers (If different than above signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date