



## **VACAVILLE YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE BEHAVIOR POLICY**

**It is the desire of the Vacaville Youth Soccer League (VYSL) Board of Directors (B. O. D.) for players, parents, coaches, referees and other spectators to be able to enjoy the sport of soccer in a safe and positive environment. To this end, the following policy is adopted to establish guidelines as to what actions constitute unacceptable behavior and the recommended consequences of such actions:**

**I - SCOPE: This policy pertains to actions taken by players, referees, coaches, parents and spectators before, during and after a VYSL game, practice or team event. All VYSL teams (Recreation, and Competitive) playing at home or away are covered by this policy. This policy specifically does NOT address misconduct by players on the field of play during a game, as those actions and consequences are already addressed by FIFA and CYSA in the Team Manual. Nor it addresses events which normally fall under the jurisdiction of other standing Player Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) committees, such as Metro Competitive League PAD's. (Any of those events may be reviewed by a VYSL PAD at the VYSL Board's discretion). In all other cases, the punishments recommended here are to be considered minimums, which the VYSL PAD Committee may or may not increase. If the VYSL PAD implements a termination or suspension of a coach or parent or referee or invokes a period of probation, those so penalized shall not be considered "members in good standing" and thus will lose the privilege of "membership," which include participating in the Annual General Meeting and serving VYSL in any official capacity during their period of termination, suspension or probation.**

**II - PROCEDURE:** Any player, coach, parent, referee or other spectators may bring a complaint against another party. The complaint shall be in writing and shall be directed to the president of VYSL who shall instruct the First Vice President to convene a PAD meeting in accordance with the VYSL Constitution.

**III - SPECIFIC INFRACTIONS:**

**A - COACH:**

- 1 Aggressively challenging a referee's decision, either by raising his/her voice, gesturing or otherwise clearly demonstrating dissent:**
  - • **First offense: 1 game suspension**
  - • **Second offense: 5 game suspension**
  - • **Third offense: termination as coach, 1 year suspension**
  
- 2 Aggressively challenging a referee's decision by initiating physical contact with the referee, to include bumping, pushing, shoving or striking in any way, or by direct foul language toward the referee:**
  - **NOTE #1: ANY PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH A REFEREE IS A SPECIFIC MISDEMEANOR IN THE CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE AND CAN RESULT IN PROSECUTION. NO PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH A REFEREE WILL BE TOLERATED.**
  - **First offense: Immediate suspension for minimum of 1 year, minimum 2 additional years on probation.**
  
- 3 Confronting adults in a physical matter by initiating physical contact, to include bumping, pushing, shoving or striking in any way, or by direct foul language to other adults, be they from the opposing team or his/her own team:**
  - **Note # 2: ANY UNWANTED PHYSICAL TOUCHING, SUCH AS BUMPING OR PUSHING, IS CONSIDERED BATTERY, WHICH CAN RESULT IN A 6-MONTH PRISON TERM AND/OR A \$1,000 FINE.**
  - **First offense: Suspension as a coach, as in A -2 above.**
  
- 4 Striking or attempting to strike a player, either on his/her own team or an opponent:**
  - **First offense: Permanent termination as coach.**

**B - PARENTS AND OTHER SPECTATORS:**

- 1 Aggressively challenging a referees decision, either by raising his/her voice, gesturing or otherwise clearly demonstrating dissent:**
  - **First offense: Counseling by a Board Member (Coach to provide name of adult to referee; refusal will result in coach serving a 1 game suspension.)**
  - **Second offense: Parent suspended from attending child's games for remainder of season, on probation for 1 year**
  - **Third offense: Parent permanently suspended from attending child's games.**
- 2 Aggressively challenging a referee's decision by initiating physical contact with a referee, to include bumping, pushing, shoving or striking anyway, or by directing foul language toward a referee: SEE NOTE #1 ABOVE**
  - **First offense: Parent suspended from attending child's games for 1 year, suspended for 1 year, on probation for 2 more years.**
- 3 Confronting adults in a physical matter (as in item A-3 above, including the use of foul language) be they from the opposing team or his/or an opponent: SEE NOTE #2 ABOVE**
  - **First offense: Parent suspended from attending child's games for one-year, suspended for 1 year, probation for 2 more years.**
  - **Second offense: Permanent suspension of player and parent from VYSL**
- 4 Striking or attempting to striking player, either on his/her own team or an opponent: first offense: permanent expulsion of parent from VYSL.**
  - **NOTE #3: IF PARENTS FAIL TO HONOR THEIR SUSPENSION FROM THEIR CHILDREN'S GAMES, THEIR CHILD WILL LOSE THEIR PLAYING PRIVILEGES.**

**C – REFEREES:**

- 1 Confronting adults or players in a physical matter (as in item A-2 above, including the use of foul language):**
  - **First offense: 2 year suspension, 3 years of probation.**
  - **Second offense: Permanent suspension.**
  - **2. Striking or attempting to strike a player:**
  - **Third offense: Permanent removal of referee from VYSL.**