

Post-Game Handshake Policy

It is essential that players/coaches/parents understand that the post-game handshake is an important symbol and tradition of sportsmanship, goodwill, respect and appreciation for the opponent.

The “Post-Game Handshake” has come under a lot of fire recently due to some confrontations, poor acts of sportsmanship, disrespect, or simply the perceived lack of sincerity in the process. Some organizations and leagues have discussed and/or actually eliminated the practice.

What Is Good Sportsmanship?

Good sportsmanship is when teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials treat each other with respect. Children learn the basics of sportsmanship from the adults in their lives, especially their parents and their coaches. Children who see adults behaving in a sportsmanlike way gradually come to understand that the real winners in sports are those who know how to persevere and to behave with dignity – whether they win or lose a game.

How CYS House League Teams will conduct post-game handshakes!

1. At the conclusion of the game the referee will whistle to end the game.
2. The Referee will immediately go to the centre kick off spot
3. Players will immediately form a line at the centre spot area
4. Both GK's are first in line with teammates behind them
5. The team Coach(s) are usually last in the line making sure the whole process is organized and completed in a swiftly. CYS asks that they position themselves at the front of the line to observe and monitor the handshakes
6. Players walk down the line giving each other “fives” as well as saying “good game” – “well played”
7. The Referee will monitor the handshakes – visually and listens to the players for any poor comments
8. The referee does not leave the centre kick off spot area until the post-game handshakes are complete

If referees/coaches witness any acts of poor sportsmanship – please contact CYS by e-mailing concerns to clubhouse@cambridgesoccer.ca and houseleaguesupport@cambridgesoccer.ca.