



www. FFPS.org
800.828.7529 (PLAY)
281.347.5425 (KICK)

FALL 2022

PARENT MANUAL



MAKING YOUTH SPORTS FUN AGAIN!



PARENT NAMES: _____



Welcome to Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer!

Dear FFPS Parents,

Welcome to Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer! Our coaches and volunteers have worked very hard to make this season a great one for your child. NOW, ALL WE NEED IS **YOUR** HELP. We now have 19 leagues with more than 4,000 players from all over the Houston area, and we could not have done it without your support.

Our Vision:

FFPS believes that each child has the desire to play, to be treated with respect and to be safe. To ensure this, FFPS was designed with special rules and policies to enable fair and equal play for EVERY child. Also, FFPS believes that every child should be accepted and included without a requirement to try-out or perform. Our vision is that every child has a positive lifetime memory of their experience which builds their confidence and self esteem.

Our Mission:

We feel that the duty of all parents is to help meet each player's needs so each one feels like a VALUED member of the team and feels SUCCESSFUL. Children need to play at their level of performance — not ours. Each child has unique abilities, determination and commitment, that should be expressed by them in their own way. The kids just want to simply PLAY and have FUN.

For this to occur we need each parent's POSITIVE involvement and POSITIVE behavior. To be positive parents must only use encouraging words like "GO...", "GOOD...", "GREAT..." or "NICE..." When your child comes off the field during a game what do they want to hear? "GOOD JOB!" This is our opportunity to give them something they need so much — unconditional love and acceptance.

We ask that neither parents nor coaches give "How To Play Instructions" during a game, like "Kick It," "Shoot," "Pass," "Go That Way," etc. Too much instruction confuses the kids and annoys players and parents. Look for the good things the kids do and ignore mistakes. As we say, "Let the Kids Play."

Make the games a fun time for all by clapping for and encouraging the players of BOTH teams. The goal is to see smiling faces on all of the players on every team each game.

Our Values:

FFPS believes good values can be realized when everyone follows FFPS policies and rules. These values are Good Sportsmanship, Honesty, Good Character, Respect, Compliments/Kindness, Responsibility, Patience, Forgiveness/Apology. See "Values" on page 16.

FFPS policies are designed to ensure a positive atmosphere "for the kids." Thus, any concerns or complaints you may have during a game must only be discussed with your own coach quietly at a stoppage in play, or even better, after the game by phone. **Parents must NEVER discuss concerns or complaints with the opposing coach or any parent at anytime.** If you feel your situation is not being handled properly by your coach, let us know so that we can help. Just contact your Division Coordinator or FFPS Executive Director, Jack Hendrie, at 713.907.4907 or Jack@FFPS.org.

Your Support:

FFPS is an all volunteer program. Your coach is thoroughly trained and has spent considerable time learning about the fun, fair, positive system. Please help and support your coach at practices and games with substitution, timekeeping, refreshments, etc. IT TAKES EVERYONE TO MAKE IT A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR EVERY CHILD. Please let our many dedicated coaches and volunteers know that they are appreciated with a "THANKS SO MUCH!" Please help out by having your child at their practices on time with their ball, water bottle and shin pads, as well as taking care of team details like sponsorships and pictures in a timely manner.

Have a great season!

Sincerely,

Jack Hendrie
Executive Director & Founder
Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer
713-907-4907 / Jack@FFPS.org

FUN

- 5 aside soccer
- Much ball contact
- Fast to learn
- Very safe rules
- Great exercise

FAIR

- Equal playing time
- Play every position
- Balanced/coed teams
- No tryouts
- Special kids included

POSITIVE

- Trophy to every player
- Only players keep score
- Positive coaching
- Positive parent education

The History of Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer

36 Years of FFPS

Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer was founded 36 years ago by Jack Hendrie and a group of dedicated parents in Katy, Texas. Around 150 players made up the first league in Katy in the spring of 1986. Now, more than two decades later, Katy enrolls around 500 players.

In 1995, Jack began expanding FFPS beyond Katy to other areas of Houston. Since then, FFPS has grown to encompass 22 new leagues throughout the Greater Houston area with a total of 10,000 players.

How the FFPS System Evolved

In 1986, a group of parents from Katy felt there had to be a better way to provide every youth with a positive soccer experience. They believed the main problem was how parents were putting too much pressure on their children to win and perform and not on fun. Over several years, rules and procedures were designed so the kids could play and enjoy the sport without demands from adults to win or perform.



Five-a-side soccer rules were chosen, equal play rules with a unique equal substitution system were designed, balanced teams were instituted, and parent training was set up to ensure that games would be fair and positive. Parents would be asked to “behave” and be positive toward their children. FFPS would really be **MADE FOR KIDS**. FFPS prides itself in providing parents with extensive literature to educate them on how to be a positive parent to each player.

Principals

FFPS has 15 principals. They are listed on the last page. These are what we believe and were founded on. To keep FFPS the way it is please let us know anyone who breaks on any of our principals.



Parent Volunteers are Key to FFPS' Success

Much of the success of FFPS is due to parents who appreciate FFPS and want to see the program implemented properly. The only way FFPS can provide the promised benefits to the kids is if parents are dedicated to our mission. It takes people who are willing to be fair and see that the rules and behavior standards are followed. To volunteer, please call or let us know you are interested when filling out your evaluation form. Thank you for your support of FFPS!

Special Needs Kids Program

FFPS offers a special needs program where children with special needs are included in practices and games with all of the other children. In 1996, only one special needs child was enrolled in FFPS. Last season, 80 special needs children made their way to the playing field. More than 100 players are expected this year.

FFPS is “For the Kids”

FFPS is a YOUTH SOCCER program, and we mean to emphasize the word YOUTH. FFPS is unique because it recognizes the needs of children by holding to a system where youth and their parents are part of a positive environment. We are one big FFPS family, where there is always a cooperative spirit and everybody helps one another for the benefit of all the kids.



Who is our customer? The kids, of course!

What does our customer want?

- To play.
- To be treated with respect.
- To be safe.

This allows the kids to feel:

Accepted, valued, successful, included.

How does FFPS promote this?

- Equal play and play all positions.
- Balanced teams.
- Positive training for coaches and parents.
- Trophy to all.

The Bottom Line:

We want to make our customer happy! We want excited and happy kids at the end of each practice and game, so that they can feel comfortable to return to play again and again for as long as they desire.

The True Benefits of FFPS

by Jack Hendrie, FFPS Founder

I have always felt that youth sports should really be “for the kids”—a wholesome place for kids to enjoy sports and meet others who felt the same way. When I founded FFPS, I wanted my kids and family to develop

friendships and have fun playing soccer for as long as they wanted without tryouts, the pressure to perform or the fear of being yelled at for mistakes. All three of my children played in FFPS until they were 18 years old. I also coached all three of them. I loved it. They loved it. My children developed many friendships, which they still have today. Our family has truly benefited from FFPS. My dream of a positive experience came true for our family and we have been truly blessed. I hope FFPS can be for your family what it has been for ours. I hope your kids can play until they are 18. One way to ensure a good season is to get involved. FFPS is all-volunteer at the local level, and as many of you know, it takes a whole village to raise a child.

What About Performance?

I believe kids should be allowed to perform at their level and not play at the level their parent expects. We all want our kids to be a success; however, FFPS is designed build confidence and self esteem while having fun and meeting new friends. With positive parents and coaches everyone can feel like a success. If you push your child to perform at your level they may get frustrated and eventually quit all activities at a young age. In the U.S., most kids quit all youth sports by the age of 13. Studies say they quit because it was no longer fun and positive. Thus, the goal for parents should be to make an environment where their child can to play as long as they want.

Behavior at Games

As a parent, your responsibility is to make every game a great one. Here's how you can be a supportive parent and fan for the kids.

What can we say at the games?

Anything that begins with "GO...," "GOOD...," "GREAT...," "NICE..." (i.e., Go Julie!, Good Kick!, Nice Shot!, Great Save!).

What can't we say at games?

You cannot tell players how to play. The game is for them. Allow them to perform at their level, not your level. Cannot say comments like "Pass," "Kick it," "Shoot," "Run," "Faster."

Can we tell the kids or coach what they did wrong to help them play better?

NEVER. You cannot correct the kids, coach or any parent in any way. Cannot say comments like "No pushing," "Don't do that," "That is out," or "Stop him."

What can we say to our coach if we are upset?

You can talk to your coach in private between rotations (breaks), at half-time, or wait and call later. Never while the play is going on. You must never disrupt the game. You must never discuss concerns with opposing coach, parents, or players.

What can we say to the other coach or any parent or player if we are upset?

Nothing. You can only talk to your coach in private.

Can we ever go on the field of play?

Never during a game. This may disrupt the game for the kids. We must remember we are here "for the kids."

What if I or my child disrupts the game or has poor behavior?

Your child could be asked to not attend a game or never to attend another game. It depends on how well you and/or your child take responsibility for the behavior and make amends never to do it again.

What if my child is pushed down or I hear profanity? What do I do?

You should talk to your coach only between rotations or at half-time or in private so no one can hear you. If the problem continues, you cannot disrupt the game (must keep quiet). You can remove your child. You should report any bad incident to Jack Hendrie, FFPS Executive Director, at 713.907.4907 or contact your local Division Coordinator or Team Formation Director.



Values

FFPS Format helps promote good values, friendships and good health.

FFPS's Equal Play, play all positions, balanced teams, positive coaching, kids keep scores (not parents) lends itself to good values and friendships to develop. Here are eight good values and their definitions:

1. **Good Sportsmanship**: Good attitude win or lose.
2. **Honesty**: Completely truthful and just.
3. **Good Character**: Doing the right thing when no one is looking.
4. **Respect**: Honor and show consideration. Treat others as you want to be treated.
5. **Compliment/Kindness**: A polite expression, praise or respect, being friendly.
6. **Responsibility**: Accountable for your actions.
7. **Patience**: Wait calmly for somebody or something even if they are late.
8. **Forgiveness**: Willingness to pardon someone.
Apology: Willingness to make amends and change your behavior to someone.

In FFPS these values are better able to occur due to FFPS rules, policies, and training. And, FFPS has procedures. But, we need parent support for these values to be realized. Please see the Code of Conduct for parent behavior that is expected for these values to be realized at games. During the coming season year coach will ensure the rules and policies are enforced to ensure these values are realized for a positive experience for every child. In this way your child's confidence and self esteem will grow.

Friendships:

FFPS's format helps promote friendships. Players are not competing for a position to play in fear of losing their playing time or playing in a position they don't like as FFPS has an equal play and play all positions rule. FFPS's format promotes a friendly atmosphere. Parents and Coaches are encouraging and positive, adding to the friendly atmosphere. And, there is no playoffs, city championship or standings kept by FFPS to put pressure on the players or the coach to be tempted to emphasize winning. Thus, FFPS, again, promotes a friendly atmosphere. Each season the teams are reformed as FFPS balances the teams for fairness. Thus, after several seasons, players create many new friends on their team but also on many other teams. Many FFPS players and parents make lifelong friends due to this friendly atmosphere that is created by FFPS.

Health:

The FFPS Format helps promote good health. Soccer is a great sport for getting exercise as kids love to kick a ball and run after it. They don't even realize how much exercise they are getting because they are having so much fun kicking the ball. In FFPS with 5 aside and equal play, play all positions, players aren't just running, they are turning, stopping, accelerating, and when playing goalie using their arms and upper body. As players begin to enjoy playing soccer in FFPS many will want to play at home and at the school, at the park. This joy of playing is a great way to get exercise which is good for their health and it was fun!

Is your team experiencing these values?

Is your coach reviewing these values with the players?

If not please let us know. Please call Jack at 713.907.4907.

FFPS Most Asked Questions

1. What equipment do we need to purchase?

You need to purchase shin pads, ball and a water bottle. These items are required for all practices, while shin pads and water bottle are required for all games.

2. Can I change teams due to practice conflicts?

FFPS does allow players to attempt to change teams. We ask that you discuss with your coach the possibility of moving the date and/or time. However, with seven other families, this can be difficult at times to please everyone. You can attempt to change teams online by going to www.ffps.org and clicking on "My Account," then "Change Teams." Because of FFPS' balanced team rules, it can be difficult to change teams.

3. How do I get the uniform, schedule and later, the trophy?

SEE YOUR COACH: 1. Coach will hand out uniform and schedule before first game.
2. Coach will hand out trophy at last game or team party.

4. When is the parade? When is the first game?

The parade prepares 2 hours before your game time. See your coach for your team's exact plans, meeting location and game schedule.

5. When is it my turn to do team drinks?

See your Coach or Team Manager for a schedule, or go to www.ffps.org, click on "My Account," then go to "Team Website." Each parent normally takes one game.

6. When is Grandparents' Day and World Cup Day?

Normally, Grandparents' Day is the second game of the season. See game schedule. All grandparents receive a FFPS pin. World Cup Day is the second to last game normally. See your coach for details.

7. How do I contact FFPS, head volunteers or FFPS staff?

a) www.ffps.org – "Contact Us"
b) Email jack@ffps.org or call 713.907.4907.

8. How do I get a team roster?

a) Go to www.ffps.org, click on "My Account," then go to "View Roster;" or see your coach. You must stay on the team that is in the "FFPS Official Team Roster" online.

9. How do I report a coach who is not following FFPS policy/procedures?

It is every parent's responsibility to report any incident that is not within the policies of FFPS.

Depending on incident and satisfaction: "How to Report/ Handle an Incident."

1) Contact your Division Coordinator. 4) Contact Jack Hendrie, FFPS Executive Director at 713.907.4907 or Jack@ffps.org.
2) Contact your Team Formation Director.
3) Contact your Regional Director. **All contact info is at www.ffps.org, "Contact Us."**

10. What are the field rules?

No dogs or pets, no smoking, no earrings, no hard objects in hair, no watches, no jewelry, no bikes, no tents or canopies (only hand held umbrellas allowed), no "how to play" instructions given to players, no standing behind the goals and no trash allowed on the field or left or in the parking lot.

11. How do I turn in money for sponsors and pictures? How much is it?

See Coach or Team Manager. Money is due on Picture Day. Every team must have business sponsor (\$380/team) or the parents sponsor the team (\$40/player). NEW! If FFPS notified by your Coach or Team Manager by Wednesday midnight, before Picture Day and "Parent Sponsored" FFPS will charge the credit card you signed up your child with.

12. Where and when are pictures? What if I have a picture/trophy problem?

Normally, pictures are taken off-site from the game site due to the parking needed and the need for shade.

See handouts for times/locations at www.ffps.org > "About Us" > "Pictures," or ask your coach.

If you have **picture issues** after you receive them, call **Brian at "N the Zone" Photo at 281.481.6565.**

If you have **trophy issues** after you receive it, call **Roxanne at Katy Trophy at 281.392.7118.**

13. How do I get a refund/credit voucher?

Go to www.ffps.org/refund or contact Kathy@ffps.org or 800-828-7529 x917 before the first game. Credit voucher is \$75.

14. What if I have difficulty with the FFPS website?

Contact Kathlyn at kathlyn@ffps.org or 713.898.3877.

15. Does FFPS have Accidental Insurance?

FFPS has secondary accidental insurance, which means the policy pays whatever your insurance does not. It has a \$100 deductible. Max \$100,000. Call Jack at 713.907.4907 within 48 hours to report incident.

16. When is the next season?

FFPS has both fall and spring seasons.

Spring season begins in late March — Sign up mid-February to mid-March.

Fall season begins in late September — Sign up mid-August to mid-September.

FFPS Code of Conduct – Games

Code of Conduct – Games

ALLOWED		NOT ALLOWED	
Positive Comments Only Examples of What To Say		No Instruction Allowed Examples of What NOT To Say	No Negative Comments Examples of What NOT To Say
Go...	• Name of child, Name of team	Kick it, Shoot, Pass Spread out Go that way Go this way Go get him/her Get aggressive Offense, Defense You need to...	No pushing No tripping No kicking No bad words Stop that You can't do that In other words, <u>NO</u> negative discussions!
Good...	• Pass		
Great...	• Dribble		
Nice...	• Kick, Shot • Game • Defense • Offense • Goalie, Save		

CONCERNS:

Parents must **NEVER** discuss any concerns with the opposing parents or opposing coach ever.

Parents must **ONLY** discuss concerns with their own Coach and only quietly at a stoppage of play. Better yet, call your Coach the next day to discuss concerns.

How to Report Concerns at Games:

If you wish to report an incident at games call your Division Coordinator, Team Formation Director, Regional Director or Executive Director, Jack Hendrie at 713-907-4907 after your game. All contact info is at www.FFPS.org, "Contacts."

Other Game Policies:

- Must **not** go on the field of play unless child is injured.
- Must **not** be behind the goal area, only the sidelines.
- No scores or standings be announced or written down by parents, only players discretely. If the child asks what the score is, say "it's not my job."
- There is a 3 goal limit per player per game.
- Must use FFPS Equal Substitution System (Coach may not hold or do substitution - parent volunteer only).

Field Rules:

1. Players must wear shin pads and bring water bottle.
2. No earrings, hard objects in the hair, jewelry, watches, rings, etc.
3. Arrive 15 minutes before the game.
4. Pick up the trash after the game as a courtesy to the next team and your community.
5. No pets allowed.
6. No canopies allowed. (Hand held umbrellas only).
7. No smoking, alcohol or illegal drugs allowed.
8. If raining, show up unless coach calls. Also see www.ffps.org/weather

Consequences:

Players:

Inappropriate behavior or violation of rules a warning may be given or possible removal for 5 minutes or longer.

Parents:

Inappropriate behavior by parents possible a warning may be given and /or removal.

Soccer Development by Age

Kids Learn At Different Ages

The Most Important Goal is for Kids to Have Fun and Learn at Their Own Pace!

Parents should be positive! Look at each skill the child does and say:

Good Dribble, or Good Kick or Good Save, etc.! and DO NOT Give Instructions!

Ages	Skills	Games
4 - 6	All Fun Games	All Dribbling
7 - 8	Lots of Fun Games Skills Introduced	Most Dribbling, Some Passing
8 - 9	Fun Games Skills Learned Some Positional Play Taught	Some Dribbling, Some Passing
10 - 11	Fun Games Skills Learned Positional Play Taught	Some Dribbling, Some Passing
12 - 13	Keep It Fun Skills Learned Positional Play Taught	Some Dribbling, Lots Of Passing
14 and Older	Keep It Fun Skills Learned Positional Play Taught	Some Dribbling, Lots of Passing

Player Behavior

FFPS Player Progressive Behavior Procedures:

Players are expected to participate and enjoy practice and games. Players are not expected to be disruptive, unruly or use foul language.

1st Offense: Warning

2nd Offense: Second warning

Explain that a 5 minute sit-out time will be the consequence if continued misbehavior.

3rd Offense: Sit out for 5 minutes

4th Offense:

1. Sit out for ANOTHER 5 minutes
2. TALK TO PARENTS
3. Ask them to come to practice, get involved and help you to help their child

5th Offense: Last resort — sit out the remainder of the game or practice

6th Offense: Possible refund/credit voucher or permanent removal

Youth and Sports

As kids get older, most youth sports emphasize winning and All-Stars. Tryouts often exclude many kids. Many kids get yelled at by coaches and parents for their mistakes. Many kids get much less playing time than others. And many kids are forced to play a position on the field where they are left out more. Is winning and trying to find the best team with the best players worth all these kids quitting? Every kid needs an opportunity to just play without any regard to ability or experience, **just for enjoyment and to have fun!**

According to a child centered coaching institute, **71% of all youth quit youth sports by age 13.**

In a USA Today Survey, 37% of children said they wish their parents did NOT come to watch them and 41% said they woke up in the middle of the night worrying about an event.

37% of kids tell their parents not to watch them.

Child Abuse All Too Common in Youth Sports
Child abuse in youth sports is defined as any action taken by an adult, which results in the direct or indirect physical and/or emotional harm of children.

The three main types of abuse are verbal, physical and emotional.

Verbal Abuse

Occurs most often in youth sports and consists of name calling, comments that demean a child's integrity, swearing at players, hurtful comments regarding performance or anything said to a child that is going to make them feel less as a result of the interaction.

Physical Abuse

Is the most easily identified and includes slapping, grabbing, shoving, or hitting a child as well as using excessive forms of punishment.

Emotional Abuse

Is placing unrealistic expectations on a child such as winning every game, scoring the most points, playing without making any errors or mistakes.

A study conducted by the Minnesota Sports Commission (MASC) found that:

45% of boys and girls surveyed said that they had been called names, yelled at and **insulted while playing sports.**

18% reported that they had been **kicked, slapped and hit during their sports participation.**

22% said they were **pressured** to play with an **injury.**

Team Formation Policies

All Family Involvement—All Volunteer

FFPS leagues are all-volunteer and parents are asked to volunteer. This helps your child and all children to have the best experience possible. Parents have the responsibility to assist their coach as much as possible to ensure all the kids have a great season.

Coaches Needed

FFPS is always looking for coaches! Coaching is rewarding and fun for moms and dads. Your time commitment to coaching is no more than the time your child participates in FFPS. No experience needed. Training provided.

Promoting Positive Parent Behavior

Parents MUST be POSITIVE and ENCOURAGE all players. Coach strategies are not tolerated at practices or games. Only positive words of encouragement is allowed.

To ensure a positive experience for all kids, our organization abides by a Parent Inappropriate Behavior Policy, which enforces a penalty should any parent disregard the policy. The Parent Inappropriate Behavior Policy can be read at ffps.org.

Most Teams are Coed

FFPS will attempt to place boys and girls on the same teams. Girls and boys do equally well in soccer and it helps boys and girls to learn to play together, too!

FFPS Believes in Fair, Balanced Teams

Fairness is the cornerstone of our league. FFPS teams are re-balanced EACH season by age, grade, gender, experience, size, skills, goals scored, coach evaluations and area (considered the least important or secondary criteria). Teams are assembled as EQUAL as possible each season, giving each team and player an equal opportunity for meeting new friends and having fun!

Team Formation

Teams are formed by year of birth not grade levels (for example: 1993s, 1992s, 1991s and so on). FFPS does not use grades. If there are not enough players with the same birth year to make a team, then players will be combined with other age groups.

Subdivision/Schools/Area Teams

FFPS attempts to keep subdivisions, schools or areas together, but it is ALWAYS secondary to “balanced teams.”

Team Placement Policy

Once placed on a team, a player cannot be moved to another team. Playing on any other team without FFPS approval could result in immediate permanent removal from FFPS without a refund.

Team Changes

FFPS allows you to change teams under “My Account” on ffps.org. However, this is very difficult due to the balanced team format and fulfillment. No full refunds allowed due to practice conflicts or swap conflicts.

Misrepresenting a Player’s Age

FFPS does not require a birth certificate. But intentional misrepresentation of a player’s age could result in immediate removal from FFPS without refund and participation in future seasons would require a birth certificate.

Privacy Policy

Your personal information will never be provided to any vendor or sold or used for profit to FFPS and can only be used to inform you of FFPS functions. You may request removal of any personal information to kathlyn@ffps.org.

Friend Request Policies

1. Only one (1) friend connected to any one player.
2. Odds may approve if friends born in the same year of birth or meet “play up/play down” exceptions (see above).
3. Friend requests are never guaranteed. Always at FFPS’ discretion and can be denied at any time for any reason.
4. FFPS is not obligated to notify you if request is denied.

Friend Request Procedures

1. BOTH players sign up ONLINE

1. Must provide player ID number of friend OR friend provides your player ID number to you for you to provide online. Can provide either:
 - a. During sign up online or,
 - b. After sign up at www.ffps.org > “My Account”.
2. Player names not accepted, only PLAYER ID. NO.
3. To find player ID numbers: Provided after sign up in “confirmation” email, or go to www.ffps.org > “My Account” after sign up.

2. ONE or BOTH players sign up by MAIL-IN

If one friend signs up online, online friend provides player ID number (number provided after sign up online in “confirmation” email) to mail-in friend or BOTH must mail in TOGETHER.

Play Up / Play Down Policy

Generally, teams are formed by same year of birth (YOB); however, exceptions can include:

Play up to an older age (YOB):

1. January birthday
2. Scored 15+ goals in FFPS last season (approval)

Play down to a younger age (YOB):

1. December birthday
2. Never played soccer before (first season only)
3. Special needs player (approval)

Registration Director MUST approve ALL exceptions.

Special Needs Players

FFPS pays special attention to special needs children (children with mental and/or physical challenges). Placement in the proper age group is vital to their success. You MUST contact your Registration Director to discuss approval before placement can be made. You must also provide additional information at registration. Note: No friend requests.

Parent Inappropriate Behavior Policy

To ensure a positive experience “for all the kids”:

1. NO rude, inappropriate, foul language, violent, or disrespectful behavior toward anyone in FFPS.
2. NO instructions to players allowed or derogatory or disruptive behavior with any coach or parent during a game (only to your coach in private), and NO yelling loudly.
3. NO dogs, tents, bikes, standing behind goal, illegal parking or driving, and help pick up any trash to ensure a safe, clean event.
4. NO smoking, drugs, or alcohol allowed at any FFPS events.
5. Must follow any FFPS Policies/Procedures provided by your coach.

Penalty: Any violation of FFPS Policies or conduct of an inappropriate manner mentioned above toward any staff, Head Volunteer, Coach, player or another parent, FFPS may require a fine be imposed and proceeds to be provided to the FFPS Scholarship Fund of up to \$100 payable the next season played; or FFPS may require that person and/or the player to be removed from FFPS and without a refund.

Questions or Concerns

All parents have a responsibility to ensure a great experience “for the kids”. If you have questions or concerns, it is your duty and obligation to follow FFPS Policies and Procedures provided by your coach and report any concern by contacting your FFPS local contacts (see handouts) or Jack Hendrie, FFPS Executive Director, at 713.907.4907 or jack@ffps.org

FFPS Soccer Rules – Summary

This is only a guide for the rules and strategies and should be applied according to the particular age of the players. See Coaches Manual/Rule Book always for exact wording and details.

1. Check Equipment

Must check all players. Line them up.

RULE: No earrings, no watches, no jewelry and no hard objects of any kind in hair or any place. A child CANNOT PLAY with any of these items worn.

2. Kickoff

Flip coin or toss ball.

Winner has choice of kickoff or select side.

Defending team takes choice of what is left.

Offending team: Ball must be only kicked forward once, not dribbled. Team cannot score from kickoff. Player cannot pass over the halfway line until ball is kicked.

Defending team: Must be ten feet away. Cannot pass over ten foot circle until the ball is kicked.

When to have kickoffs: To start game, after goal scored (team that was scored upon), and halftime (team that did not kickoff at start).

Penalty: Retake or give ball to opposing team.

3. Ball Out of Play

Whole ball over whole line (the plane of the ball).

Penalty: Thrown in to opposing team.

If ball crosses the “end” line:

Goalie Throw:

- Last kicked over the goal line by offending team.
- Goalie CAN ONLY throw ball.
- Goalie CAN THROW ball any way they prefer.
- Goalie CANNOT KICK the ball.

Corner Throw:

- Last kicked over the goal line by defending team.
- Corner throw.
- Ball goes in the corner and is a throw-in (See Rule 12).

If ball crosses the “side” line:

Throw-In:

- Whichever teams last touched ball before going out, ball goes to opposing team.
- Throw-In: Two hands behind head with two feet on the ground.
- NOTE: Ignore improper throw-in with younger players AS NOT SEEKING ADVANTAGE.
- Ball must be touched by another player before person throwing can touch ball again.

4. Position Rules

Goalie

1. Must throw ball with hands.

Can throw any way goalie wants to.
Cannot kick the ball once picked up.

2. Must keep both feet in goal box.

Cannot come out of goal box to interfere with play.
BOTH FEET MUST STAY IN THE GOAL BOX.

3. Must release ball in 5 seconds.

PENALTY: Say “5-4-3-2-1-0.”

4. Cannot throw or (new) kick ball over half-way line.

NOTE: Ball must touch goalie side of the field or player before going on other half.

Penalty: Throw-in from halfway line to opposing team.

5. Protect the goalie.

Ensure the safety of the goalie especially when the goalie bends down to pick up the ball.

Defender

Cannot go past halfway line.

Penalty: Indirect kick.

Exception: Defender can go past half way line to do throw-ins.

Forward

There is SUPPOSED to be left, center and right FORWARD positions. Positions are NOT mandatory, though, as young players are not able to understand this concept.

5. Five Second Rule

Must put ball in play after 5 seconds after all restart.
Say “5-4-3-2-1-0.”

Penalty: None (Say again “5-4-3-2-1-0.”).

6. Ten Foot Rule

Defending team must be 10 feet away on KICKOFF AND INDIRECT KICKS. NOTE: Younger players—IGNORE

Penalty: Retake or give ball to opposing team.

7. Scoring

NO goal if KICKED from inside the goal box.

NOTE: ANY player can go inside the goal box to get the ball.
Cannot score from a throw-in or kick-off.

Penalty: As if it went out of bounds. Restart with goal throw or corner throw.

8. Fouls

1. Kicking, tripping, pushing, and hitting the opponent
2. Dangerous plays: on the ground kicking & high kicks
3. Obstruction (when not in possession of the ball)
4. Hand ball (intentional - from seam/shirt down)
5. Goalie out of the box
6. Defender passes the halfway line.
7. Heading the ball with your head (must be intentional).
8. Slide Tackle

Penalty: Restart with indirect kick.

9. Three Goal Limit

There is a three goal limit per player per game.

Penalty: If player intentionally scores a fourth goal – 5 minute sit-out, goal does not count and player cannot be replaced.

10. Indirect Kick

Method of restart after a foul is called.

- Defense must be 10 feet away.
- Ball goes where foul occurred.
- Must touch any 2 players first to be a goal.
- Cannot kick ball until whistle blown.

11. Advantage

Foul occurs, but player recovers and keeps advantage—no foul called. Other player warned. Player who commits foul is warned.

12. Drop Ball

Method of restart when unsure of who was at fault. Use two players. Ball must hit ground before played again.

13. Coach & Parent Concerns

Must use “HELP THE COACH” form.

No negative verbal comments during the games.

Consolidated Financial Report

Fun Fair Positive Soccer A 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Charitable Corporation

Mission Statement:

FFPS is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable corporation to develop youth soccer leagues with special rules and extensive training to ensure a maximum of fun, fairness, self-esteem building, and a successful and positive experience in which positive behavior and positive values can be realized for every player with parents being positive fans “for the kids.”

What Does Non-Profit Mean?

Non-profit means FFPS does not pay taxes, which saves FFPS money. Also, a non-profit has no ownership; it is always a corporation without shares with a Board of Directors. There is no profit allowed in a non-profit over and above what is needed to operate and grow. Thus, FFPS fees can only be what is needed to meet expenses and not what the market will bear. And, as a non-profit, if FFPS were to cease, any money left must go to another non-profit with a similar mission. Thus, there is no financial incentive to grow a non-profit except to further its mission and benefits. In FFPS' case, we allow as many children and parents who would like to do so, be informed and benefit from the FFPS experience.

Why is There a Positive “Net Total” if FFPS is a Non-Profit?

FFPS sets its fee so there is a slight amount left after each season. This money is working capital used to start the next season and start new programs. Also, FFPS reserves funds for future development of parks, like in Katy and other programs as they grow. Funds are also reserved for field improvements like dirt work in the summer or added irrigation systems. Thus, only the net that is needed to operate is allowed.

How Does FFPS Save Money and Provide Quality?

FFPS has one of the lowest fees of any youth sport, which includes a quality uniform, a very nice trophy, the finest positive training for coaches and parents and great insurance—all without selling candy! Our low cost is in great part due to our volunteers and FFPS being an all-volunteer organization. In addition, FFPS' continuing growth and size, a uniform format and quantity buying offer a great advantage. FFPS, unlike most youth sports, buys the same items for all of the programs, while most leagues buy separately for each. By buying 10,000 uniforms from the same company we are able to get their best price. This is also true with printing, trophies and everything we buy. Also, FFPS is one of safest programs with a very low injury rate, and we are able to negotiate lower insurance premiums each year per player.

What Does the Financial Report on the Next Page Mean?

That FFPS is in excellent financial health. The report is for income and expenses on a per player basis for the spring and fall seasons for all 22 of our programs. We have provided this to you as a per player amount to make it easy to see what portion of what you pay goes where. In case you are an accountant, FFPS uses fund accounting in which each program is accounted for separately but one bank account is used.

For questions contact:

Jack Hendrie, Executive Director
22202 Unicorn's Horn Lane
Katy, Texas 77449
Phone: 713.907.4907
Email: jack@ffps.org

Consolidated Financial Report by Player

Fun Fair Positive Soccer A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation Spring & Fall 2017

Total Leagues: 22
Total Players (2017) 11072

Income

Registration Fees \$ 106.86
Includes all Fees
Sponsor Fees \$ 39.42
Includes all business and parent sponsors
Online Donations \$ 2.41
Includes all business and parent donations
Other \$ 4.21
Includes grocery store programs, grants and concessions.

TOTAL INCOME: \$ 152.90

Expense

Uniforms \$ 21.91
Player shirts, short and socks
Awards \$ 2.86
Trophies to all players, team manager gift/T-shirts, coaches plaques, division coordinator banquet.
Volunteer Training/Appreciation \$ 10.98
balls, whistles, meeting expenses, plaques, folders, training literature, appreciation, background
Parent Information \$ 2.37
All literature to parents
Registration \$ 0.08
Set-Ups, Forms, Flyers,

Marketing \$ 23.96
Newspaper ads, school flyers, signs, Post Cards, Magazines, posters, bumper stickers, e-mails.

Fields \$ 20.03
Field maintenance (cut, fertilize), insecticides, weed control, equipment, repairs, drainage, irrigation, convenience and safety, storage and mower rental.

Game Site \$ 5.25
Goals, balls, numbers, first aid kits, liners, paint and bathrooms

Special Events \$ 1.52
Soccerfests, camps, opening day parades, Grandparents' Day ribbons and picture day.

Sponsors \$ 3.64
Forms, plaques, newspaper ads, newsletter, printing of shirts and thank yous.

Training & Support Group (TSG) \$ 50.01
Includes player medical insurance, liability insurance, staff payroll, central telephones, legal and accounting, banking, computers, office equipment and supplies, scheduling costs, new program development, website development.

TOTAL EXPENSE: \$ 142.60

NET TOTAL: \$ 10.30

Parent's Guide to Child Abuse/Molestation Risk Management Program

FFPS has adopted a Child Abuse/Molestation Risk Management Program. Certain elements of this program are being communicated to you in this Parent's Guide in order to enhance education and to help to create an environment that is hostile to abusers. The basic elements of this program are outlined below:

1. Background:

Child abuse/molestation has become a growing concern in recent years on a national level as the topic has received much attention in the media surrounding abuses in churches, schools and sports programs. Any form of child abuse/molestation is despicable and goes against everything for which FFPS stands.

2. Purpose:

The purpose of this new risk management program is to reduce the liability risk and related negative publicity, expense, and trauma to the local sports organization and of course the children that we serve. The program will educate all league administrators and staff on examples of child abuse/molestation, warning signs, policies that can be implemented to reduce the risk, volunteer screening, and how to deal with allegations of child abuse/molestation

3. Definitions:

Child Abuse:

Verbal abuse (ridicule or put-downs), physical abuse (any hurting touching or excessive exercise used as punishment), emotional abuse (threats to perform unreasonable tasks), and sexual abuse.

Sexual Abuse:

Refers to a wide spectrum of interactions including rape, physical assault, sexual battery, unwanted physical sexual contact, unwelcome sexually explicit or offensive verbal communication, coercive or expletive sexual contact, verbal sexual harassment, and/or sexualized attention or contact with a minor.

Conduct Official:

Single person within the league who is appointed by the board to administer the Simplified Child Abuse/Molestation Risk Management Program. The Conduct Official is responsible for education, reviewing Volunteer Applications, checking references, conducting criminal background checks, handling appeals from disqualified candidates, conducting investigations on allegations of abuse, acting as liaison to local law enforcement, etc. The Conduct Official is also the appropriate person to whom all reports of child abuse/molestation should be reported.

The Conduct Official of FFPS is the President of FFPS, Jack Hendrie, at Jack@FFPS.org or 713-907-4907.

4. Policies On Child Abuse/Molestation

Limit One On One Contact:

It is this organization's policy that no activities should take place involving one on one contact between a single, non-related league volunteer and a child, if such activities can be practically avoided. Instead, a "buddy system" is encouraged where two (2) adults should always be present during practices, games, carpooling, and special events.

Prohibition of Sleepovers:

All sports organization sanctioned team or league sleepover activities should be prohibited whether overnight parties or traveling to away games. Exception: Teams traveling to far away tournaments can have sleepovers if each child is either accompanied by his/her parent or is being supervised by two (2) adults who are in each other's presence at all times.

Touch Policy:

Touch is acceptable only if it is "respectful and appropriate". Some experts have adopted a no touch policy, but most experts believe that "no touch" is an over-reaction and is ultimately damaging in itself and not practical.

Verbal Conduct Policy:

Inappropriate comments of a sexual nature and suggestive jokes are prohibited.

Take Home/Pick-Up:

Take home/pick-up of athletes by league personnel is strongly discouraged because of the difficulty in limiting one on one contact between adult and child (remember the Buddy System). Parent(s) should provide transportation for their own children to and from scheduled events. The league will clearly outline the expected start and end time for all events and communicate this with all parent(s). Parent(s) should be instructed to make back-up plans in the event they can't provide transportation. If parent(s) can't provide transportation they must communicate to the sports organization the name of the person(s) who are authorized to pick up the child. Such policy will help to protect against potential abductions or being thrust into the middle of any custody dispute.

Child Abuse Prohibition:

All forms of sexual, physical, verbal and emotional abuse are prohibited.

Name Distribution:

The distribution of directories/rosters with names, phone numbers, addresses, and pictures should be limited to persons on a "need to know" basis.

5. Examples of Abuse/Molestation

Emotional Abuse:

Yelling or making the following statements:

- You're stupid;
- You're an idiot.
- You're an embarrassment.
- You're not worth the uniform you play in; etc.

Physical Abuse:

Besides the obvious examples of a coach hitting, kicking, throwing equipment, or shaking a player, watch out for the following:

- Behaviors seem violent versus disciplinary;
- Training practices become abusive
- Fighting is encouraged or ignored;
- Illegal moves, often associated with injuries are encouraged;
- Coaches teach improper techniques or encourage conduct which violates safety rules;
- Coaches allow athlete(s) to become physically or verbally abusive;
- Behaviors result in injuries to athlete(s); etc.

Sexual Abuse:

An adult may not improperly sexualize touch by fondling instead of hugging (with permission), kissing, or seductive stroking of various body parts. On the other hand appropriate touching can be used when a young child needs comfort, reassurance, and support. Appropriate touch is respectful of a person's personal boundaries and comfort level, public (done in front of others and not secretly), and nurturing (not sexualized).

- Misuse of power and authority;
- Misuse of love and affection;
- Manipulation or tricks:
- This is love;
- This is what you need to be a part of the team;
- This is what we do for initiation
- Grooming: desensitization that begins with appropriate touch, then the touch changes.

Examples:

- You liked the touch before, or,
- What's wrong? Don't you trust me? or,
- Courting (gifts, time, attention/romancing (talking of love or attraction));
- Line (you're special, I don't usually do this sort of thing, you're so mature, you're so attractive); or,
- Secrets (this is our special secret, others wouldn't understand, you or I would get in trouble)

6. Allegations of Abuse/Molestation And Other Policy Violations

Point of Contact:

The Conduct Official is the appropriate person to whom all reports of child abuse/molestation should be reported. In the event that the Conduct Official is the alleged abuser/molester, the report should be made to the President of FFPS, Jack Hendrie, Jack@FFPS.org or 713-907-4907.

7. Volunteer Screening:

All volunteers who have repeated access to children should be required to complete a Volunteer Application and a Criminal Background Check should be conducted on each.

The Conduct Official should review the Volunteer Applications and should disqualify any candidate with a conviction involving crimes against a minor. In addition, other charges and convictions may be an indication of an unfit volunteer and may result in disqualification.

Thank you for taking the time to better understand the risk management program that is being implemented by our sports organization. Your concern and vigilance is not only appreciated, but also is an essential element of this program.

Parent Agreement

Please Read, Sign and Give "Parent Agreement" To Your Coach.

Please call Jack at 713.907.4907 to report any incidents that violate the "FFPS Principals" or "FFPS Policies and Procedures." **THANK YOU.**

League Code: _____ – _____ – _____ Team No: _____

Parent Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Child Name: _____ Hm. Phone: _____

I Agree: BEHAVIOR

1. To enjoy my child playing soccer and use only positive comments like: "Go...!" "Great...!" and "Nice...!"
2. To not give "how to play" instructions, make negative comments or cheer too loudly at games or practices like "kick it", "shoot", or "go this way".
3. To not discuss any concerns with the opposing coach, any parent, any adult or any child at any FFPS function. To only discuss concerns in private with your own coach. If there are any dangers that could be harmful to your child, you may remove your child and/or contact an FFPS official later.
4. To not write down the score or announce the score during games. If the child asks what is the score say, "It's Not My Job."
5. To cheer for both teams and to always thank both coaches after each game.
6. To honor the "Code of Conduct"
7. To not stand behind the soccer goal during games.
8. To attend as many games and practices as I can, which will greatly increase the benefits to my child.
9. To honor all FFPS policies as shown in the "PARENT INFO," "PARENT MANUAL" and others.
10. As an obligation of every parent, to report any incident that violates FFPS policies or any violation of city, county, state, or federal laws to FFPS Director at 713-907-4907.
11. To play on the team that I was placed on by "Official FFPS Team Roster" and not change teams without FFPS approval. Occasional guest players may play at the approval of both coaches.
12. That if it is determined I behaved in an inappropriate manner or if I violated an FFPS policy, I and/or my child may be asked to leave FFPS and the team, with no refund, for a period of time to be determined. Also, I may be fined up to \$100 payable to the FFPS Scholarship Fund the next season.
13. To assist the team and coach as needed as much as I can. If the coach is unable to attend a function, it is the responsibility of all the parents to assist the team as much as they can.
14. If there are any concerns or violations of FFPS Policy or Principals at anytime, parents have an obligation to report these immediately to a FFPS Official or call Jack Hendrie, Executive Director, at 713-907-4907.
15. I will report any violations of FFPS Principals as stated on the last page of the "Parent Manual."

I Agree: TEAM DUTIES

16. In the event of poor weather, check www.ffps.org/weather, and if "OPEN," always show up or call my coach to determine for sure if it is canceled or not.
17. To participate in the Sponsor Program by paying all dues required and on time (by Picture Day) and notify FFPS if "Business Sponsored" or "Parent Sponsored" by Thursday midnight before Picture Day.
18. To be on time to games and practices.
19. To contact my coach if I will miss any FFPS function prior to the event.

I Agree: FIELD RULES / SAFETY

20. To not bring dogs, pets, tents, canopies (only hand held umbrellas allowed), alcohol or drugs onto the game site area or parking lot.
21. To not smoke at game site area or parking lot.
22. To always have my child wear shin pads, bring water to practices and games and a ball to practice.
23. To park only in designated places and obey all rules of the road.
24. To pick up all trash AND any trash I see at the game site or the parking lot.
25. To not have child wear earrings, watches, jewelry, hard objects in the hair or rings while playing soccer.
26. I have read and agree with "Parent's Guide to Child Abuse/Molestation Risk Management Program."

I agree to honor all the above policies and accept any consequences for violation of these policies. I fully understand that following FFPS Policies will make FFPS the most fun, the most fair and the most positive experience for my child and each and every child in FFPS.

Parent/Guardian #1 Signature: _____ Date: _____

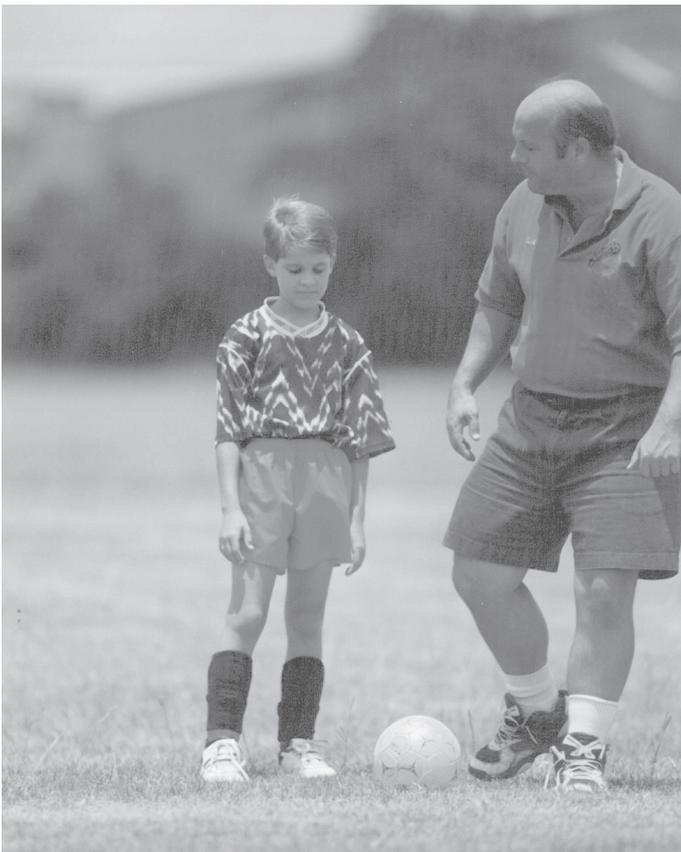
Parent/Guardian #2 Signature: _____ Date: _____

FFPS Principles

It is the obligation and responsibility of every person to report any violation of these principles to Jack Hendrie, Executive Director, at 713.907.4907 or Jack@ffps.org

NOTE: For other problems, please see your handouts on “How to Report Concerns” or visit www.ffps.org

1. Everyone will play equal time or as close as is mathematically possible.
2. Everyone will play every position or as close as is mathematically possible.
3. Each game must utilize the “FFPS Substitution System” designed by FFPS whereby the coach does NOT do substitution.
4. All coaches must use positive coaching as outlined in the training provided by FFPS.
5. No “ability” demonstration is required to participate.
6. Each team for games will have 4 - 5 players (exception for Special Need Players may be 5 - 6 with FFPS approval).
7. All players must be on the official “FFPS Team Roster” to participate. Playing as a guest player or swapping a player must follow FFPS policies.
8. Each team shall be balanced by ability and to the extent possible mixed with boys and girls.
9. No scores or standings shall be kept by FFPS, the coaches, parents or any adult.
10. There are no “All-Star” games or teams.
11. Each player will receive the same award for participation. No parent shall issue special recognition awards that recognize ability.
12. Special Needs Players will be included on regular teams.
13. All coaches, parents and adults shall follow all FFPS Policies and Procedures.
14. All parents and volunteers will sign a statement agreeing to enforce these principles.
15. Any person violating FFPS Principles, Policies or Procedures can be banned from participation in FFPS.



Written by
Jack Hendrie
Executive Director and Founder

565 S. Mason Road, Ste. 518
Katy, Texas 77450
713.907.4907
jack@ffps.org

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