

Greetings Parents, Players, and Coaches,

Welcome to Morrisville Soccer Club. We look forward to a positive, exciting, and fun-filled experience for all of our players. Below is a list of player and parent/guardian responsibilities, policies, guidelines and pertinent information that should help make each season an enjoyable one for all.

**Youth referees:**

Throughout the year, junior referees will be officiating. These are often young students who love the game and who are trying to broaden their soccer career by learning how to officiate. It is important to realize that without these junior referees, we would not be able to have our games or our annual tournament. Please join us in supporting the growth and learning of these referees, understanding it is the mission of Morrisville SC to instill the principles of good citizenship, good sportsmanship, and teamwork in the youth of our local area. Unsportsmanlike behavior towards an official from the coaches, players, or parents will not be tolerated.

**Coaches:**

Please remember that it is your responsibility to maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone during practice and match play. If a parent/spectator or athlete is exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior, the situation should be addressed firmly and quickly. Please feel free to use half time and/or after the game to talk with the young refs, provide feedback, discuss a certain call in a positive manner, and help them grow as a referee.

**Player Responsibilities:**

Please support our volunteer coaches by reviewing the following expectations with your child:

- Be Prepared: Please have your player ready to go at their field before the start of practice so that practice can begin on time. All players must have shin guards, cleats on and tied, a ball, and plenty of WATER.
- Be on Time: On game days, all players are expected to arrive at the field ready to warm up 30 mins prior to start time.
- Speak with respect to teammates, opposing players, and coaches at all times.
- Listen when coaches are speaking.
- Exhibit appropriate, sportsmanlike behavior at the fields, gathering places, in automobiles traveling to and from events, and in preparation for team activities at home or away.
- Following games, shaking hands with the other team will be orderly and devoid of any poor sportsmanship.
- Any violation of the above on and off-field expectations may result in immediate disciplinary action based on the MSC Board guidelines.

**Discipline Guidelines:**

A player exhibiting disrespectful behavior, who behaves in a disruptive manner, refuses to cooperate with their coaches and/or teammates, or attempts to injure another player will be disciplined in a progressive manner generally following the guidelines below:

The coach will:

- 1) Explain to the player why their action is not acceptable.
- 2) Ask the player to sit out a period of time on the players' bench.

- 3) Remove the player from the game or practice for the remainder of that game or practice.
- 4) If a discipline problem persists, a parent conference will be held with the coach and the Board members.
- 5) If a player is repeatedly disruptive before, during, or after any practice and/or game, that player will be placed on a period of probation for a period determined by the MSC Board. During that time period, the player must be accompanied and closely supervised by their parent/guardians, while at all practices/games. If the player's behavior is acceptable during this period, the player will be taken off probation. If not, a meeting with the parents/guardians, player, coach, and MSC Board will be held to determine appropriate action, including possible removal from the program. At all times it is up to the coach's discretion if an infraction is such that a more severe penalty is warranted immediately. Such immediate penalty shall not extend further than removal from the playing field until a parent/guardian consultation is conducted.

In addition, we would like to suggest the following guidelines to **family members** for being a supportive spectator:

- Let the coaches do the coaching. Please refrain from shouting instructions to the kids, as this can cause confusion when conflicting messages are received.
- Do not critique the referees. If you have serious concerns you feel should be addressed, please speak with the coach.
- Please cheer from on the opposite side of the field from the teams/coaches.
- Remember, the best thing you can say to your child is "I love watching you play."

The Morrisville Soccer Club Board and coaches put forth these guidelines of responsibilities and behavior in hopes of heading off any potential problems that might occur. MSC believes that this experience is only a small part of the growth and development in your children's lives, and MSC looks forward to a fun and rewarding season. And whereas we appreciate that these guidelines may seem unnecessary for our youngest players, the MSC Board believes in the value of setting a good precedent right from the start.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another great season!

**Sincerely,**

**Morrisville Soccer Club  
Board of Directors**