



# CCYSA

## Clarke County Youth Soccer Association

Welcome and Thank you for volunteering to coach for the Clarke County Youth Soccer Association. All important information can be found at the club's web site:

<http://www.clarkesoccer.org/Coaches/index.html>

We are an all volunteer organization, except for referees. The fees families pay go toward insurance through the Virginia Youth Soccer Association, field usage at Clarke County Parks and Recreation, shirts for teams, equipment (balls, scrimmage vests, goalie jerseys/gloves, first aid), trophies and paying referees.

**Before you begin**, we ask that you complete the Kid Safe form and submit it to a board member. That form can be found at <http://www.clarkesoccer.org/Coaches/index.html> scroll down, under forms.

### **Expectations:**

#### **Practice:**

We endeavor to ensure every coach selects a practice time that fits his/her schedule. As such, we expect you to be at every practice. It is understandable that unavoidable emergencies occur and in such cases practice may be cancelled or run by an assistant. The consistency of practice time for learning is important for children and we hope that you will make every effort to attend the practice time you selected.

Practice should be an instructional time where players learn soccer skills. Drills can be found at <http://www.clarkesoccer.org/Coaches/index.html> and can be shared between coaches. If you need help with this, please ask a board member.

#### **Games:**

As this is a recreational league, we expect that all children play as close to 50% of every game as possible. When children move to more competitive leagues it can be argued that the best play the most. However, our goal is that all children learn and play.

Introduce yourself to the opposing coach and referees (none at U6) prior to each game.

Line your team up at the end of each match and shake hands with the opposing team, coaches/referees included.

Be a role model for good sportsmanship. Understand that referees are learning at the younger levels and should never be yelled at by a coach or player. While you are welcome to disagree with calls, remember we are not only teaching soccer skills, we are teaching team building, respect and sportsmanship.

If you must cancel or reschedule a game, contact the opposing coach and select a mutually acceptable date. Then contact each member of your team with the cancellation and new game date. If you need phone numbers for other coaches, contact a board member.

## **Planning for First Practice:**

Send a welcome email to families. Possible items to include:

- A welcome from you
- Other team member names
- Date practice will begin
- Time and dates of practices
- What to bring to practice (water bottle, wear cleats and shin guards)
- What to do in case of inclement weather
- Copy of medical release, code of conduct forms & game schedule (all on web site)

## **At the First Practice:**

- Welcome each child and introduce yourself to each parent.
- Have parents complete the medical release and code of conduct forms.
- Have a parent assign a “snack” schedule (half time and end of game).
- Be sure kids know each other’s names.
- Identify a parent who could step in, if you have to be absent and you do not have an assistant.

## **Some Suggested Items to have on hand:**

- Extra bottle of water
- Hand wipes
- Kleenex
- Timer (U6 – no ref, so coaches keep track of time)
- Whistle
- Hand pump
- Needle

## **Items you must have on hand:**

- First Aid Kit
- Medical Release forms for all team members