

A Pocket Guide to

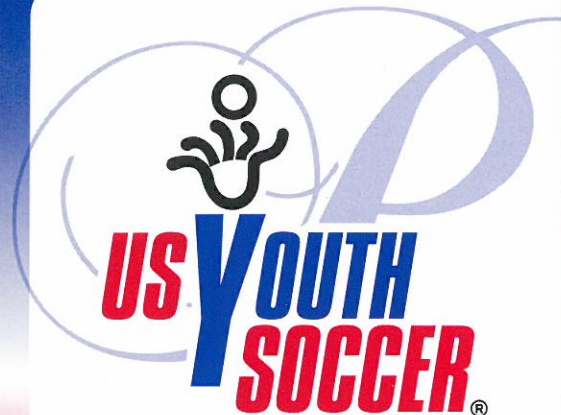
**Safety
Player Development
and
Ethics**

for today's youth soccer coach

If you need additional information,
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**Principles
of
Conduct**

Safety

1. My first responsibility is the health and safety of all participants.
2. It is recommended that coaches become certified in basic first aid and are aware of their club, league or state requirements in this area.
3. Be prepared to handle first aid situations as well as medical emergencies at all practices and games, both home and away:
 - have and know how to use a properly supplied first aid kit/ice
 - 911 emergency procedures/telephone location
 - location of nearest emergency medical facilities
 - always carry emergency medical release forms and team safety and information cards
 - follow up all injuries with parents/guardians
4. Know and understand the Laws of the Game.
5. Inspect players equipment and field conditions for safety reasons.
6. Utilize proper teaching and instructing of players regarding safe techniques and methods of play.
7. Implement appropriate training programs to make sure players are fit for practice and competition.
8. Supervise and control your players to avoid injury situations.

Player Development

1. Develop the child's appreciation of the game.
2. Keep winning and losing in proper perspective.
3. Be sensitive to each child's developmental needs.
4. Educate the players to the technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level.
5. Implement rules and equipment modification according to the players age group.
6. Allow players to experience all positions.
7. Players need to have fun and receive positive feedback.
8. Practice should be conducted in the spirit of enjoyment and learning.
9. Provide the appropriate number of training sessions and games according to the players' stage of development.
10. Strive to help each player reach their full potential and be prepared to move to the next stage of development.

Ethics

1. Strive to maintain integrity within our sport.
2. Know and follow all rules and policies set forth by clubs, leagues, state and national associations.
3. Work in the spirit of cooperation with officials, administrators, coaches and spectators to provide the participants with the maximum opportunity to develop.
4. Be a positive role model.
5. Set the standard for sportsmanship with opponents, referees, administrators and spectators.
6. Keep sport in proper perspective with education.
7. Encourage moral and social responsibility.
8. Just say no to drugs and alcohol.
9. Coaches should continue their own education in the sport.