

# MASHPEE YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION

## Codes of Conduct for Players, Parents, & Coaches

The Mashpee Youth Soccer Organization (MYSO) sponsors youth soccer opportunities for the children of Mashpee in order to develop sportsmanship, superior life skills through team play, development of soccer skills through competitive sports activities and hard work on the practice field and in match settings. Our mission is to provide the youth of Mashpee the opportunity to play soccer at the highest level commensurate with their individual ability, potential, and desire. MYSO supports and emphasizes fair play and respect for all participants in both practice and game situations. To achieve this mission, MYSO provides the following Codes of Conduct for all Mashpee players, parents, and coaches. These Conduct Codes express our core values and it is essential that they be honored and practiced at all times. The MYSO Codes of Conduct are summarized in the following three principles:

### I. Demonstrate A Positive Attitude

All MYSO players, parents, and coaches are expected to show a positive, respectful attitude for EVERYONE involved in our sport of soccer. Criticism and disrespect for officials, team-mates, opponents, coaches, or fans all undermine the purpose of sport, encourage behavior contrary to the spirit of the game, and oppose the mission of the MYSO.

### II. Set A Good Example

Everyone associated with MYSO is accountable for his/her own behavior at all times on and off the field of play. Coaches and parents should always be aware that children learn by example – it is up to all of us to set good examples! MYSO will not tolerate conduct that is detrimental to our sport, its participants, our club and our community. *We require thorough self-restraint from all of our participants – both players and adults. MYSO will exercise appropriate control over those who fail to control themselves.*

### III. Maintain Good Relationships

**Officials** – The referee’s job is very difficult and all referees are human – they do make mistakes. Parents or players who believe their team has been treated unfairly or has been assigned an unqualified referee should speak to their coach privately after the game. Coaches should inform appropriate MYSO club officials about officiating problems and the MYSO club will pursue issues through appropriate South Coast Soccer League channels. In accordance with Massachusetts Youth Soccer rules, verbal abuse directed toward a referee can result in a red card and ejection of the player, coach, or parent. Referees have the authority to suspend play if a coach does not control his/her players and the parents/supporters of the team.

**Opponents** – Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of opposing players, coaches, and fans at all times. Sportsmanship begins with respect. Without respect, the positive competitive environment which we strive to create for our athletes is undermined. Occasionally we will encounter opponents that do not share our values or our high standards of conduct. If we allow ourselves to be drawn down to their level, we have lost regardless of the outcome of the match.

**Our Own Team** – In an environment where our kids are competing against other teams and also frequently against one another in practice, it can be difficult to control rivalries and jealousies. Successful teams are teams in which the individual players put the needs of the team ahead of their own.

## Acknowledgement

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the MYSO Code of Conduct for Players, Coaches, and Parents.

Player’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today’s Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Player’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today’s Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

MYSO Team & Coach: \_\_\_\_\_