



AREA 11-L LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

December 3, 4, & 6, 2011



CODE OF CONDUCT

Dear Area 11-L Coaches, Players and Parents:

As we prepare for the **2011 Area 11-L Playoffs**, it is important to reiterate the standards of expectations for conduct on part of all associated with participation in and attendance at games.

“Safe, fair, and fun” play is not a by product of fighting, abusive language, rude gestures or intentional fouling. Poor sportsmanship and violent behavior are unacceptable and the increasingly ugly incidents leading to red and yellow card violations have become a serious safety issue. The administrators of the Area 11-L Playoffs are committed to do their part to deliver a quality program with high standards of conduct, but this goal can only be achieved if the coaches, players and their parents/spectators understand and support the conduct standards and consequences for ignoring them.

Therefore, during the Playoffs, the following code of conduct will be enforced:

Players & Coaches:

1. *No fighting.* This is a true ZERO TOLERANCE issue which will carry sanctions in, to include termination of the individual's participation in the playoffs.
2. *Respect the calls made by the officials.* No form of abuse is permitted. Player/coach conduct will be monitored to ensure compliance. Physical abuse will be treated as per “fighting” – above.
3. *Respect your opponent.* Over the course of the playoffs, if a player receives three (3) yellow cards for abusing either his opponents or officials, that player will be ineligible for further play.

Parents / Spectators:

1. *Support, or at a minimum be silent regarding the calls of the referee.* Parents/spectators can “fuel the fires” from the sidelines and such behavior encouraging poor sportsmanship will result in removal of the offending party from the field. Based on the match report, a decision will be made as to the possibility of additional sanctions against the offending party.
2. *Do not challenge any official, opposing team's coach, players, or parents.* If any parent or spectator does make such a “challenge” anytime or anywhere during the playoff game or afterwards (example: in a parking lot), then they will not be allowed to attend future games. If they persist in being present, their team's match will be suspended until such time as they leave the field or their team may possibly be forced to forfeit the match.

Discipline/consequences for ANY send off/ejection are covered in the General Information document.

It is the responsibility of the coaches to ensure proper conduct on part of themselves, their players and spectators. If not, the coach(es) also may face disciplinary action.

These actions are for everyone's benefit. Soccer is a game and we should respect it and enjoy it. If anyone has questions regarding these “standards”, please feel free to contact me. Thank you in advance for your support and compliance.

Jim Rosenberg

Area Director