

## **Port Angeles Youth Soccer Club ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

In an effort to provide participants with a healthy, safe and developmental athletic environment that encourages fair play, effort, teamwork and sportsmanship, Port Angeles Youth Soccer Club (PAYSC) supports a Zero Tolerance Policy for players, parents, coaches, game officials, team officials, league administrators and spectators. This policy requires that a sportsmanlike and developmentally positive atmosphere exist before, during and after all PAYSC-sanctioned events.

### **POLICY**

All PAYSC players, coaches, team officials, league administrators, parents and guardians are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner at all times before, during and after PAYSC-sanctioned events. Good conduct is expected to extend to game officials, spectators, as well as to opposing players, coaches and parents. The following is **PAYSC's Zero Tolerance Policy**:

#### **Players**

A caution (Yellow Card) for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses demeaning, obscene or vulgar language and/or gestures at any time, including any swearing, even if the language/gesture is not directed at a particular person.
3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. If the player persists in any of these actions after receiving a caution, they shall be assessed a misconduct (Red Card) penalty.
4. Displays unsportsmanlike behavior toward any player.

#### **Coaches**

A caution (Yellow Card) for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

1. Openly disputes or disputes any decision by an official.
2. Uses demeaning, obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision with the intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators. If the coach persists in any of these actions after receiving a caution, they shall be assessed a misconduct (Red Card) penalty.

## **Officials**

Game officials (including referees, linesmen and/or fourth officials) are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

## **Parents/Spectators**

The game will be stopped by game officials or league administrators when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and/or disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The game officials or league administrators will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the PAYSC Board of Directors. If the identified spectator refuses to leave the viewing/game area, the game official or league administrators will abandon the game and the spectator will be referred to the PAYSC Board of Directors for further disciplinary action. Inappropriate or disruptive behavior includes:

- Use of demeaning, obscene or vulgar language and/or gestures in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or actual physical violence.
- Throwing of any object in the spectator's viewing area, player's bench, or field of play, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.
- Any other behavior determined by game officials or league administrators to be detrimental to the game.

**Failure to abide by PAYSC's Code of Conduct and Zero Tolerance Policy may result in disciplinary actions against the player(s), parent(s), and/or spectator(s) involved, at the sole discretion of the PAYSC Board of Directors.**