



Governor Mifflin Soccer Club Spectator's Code of Ethics

The goal of our games is to present an opportunity for our children to compete in the TEAM sport of soccer, learning team play and good sportsmanship. As parents are aware, children observe our behavior and then emulate it. During some games in the last few years some parents have set a poor example for our young players. Both coaches and parents have said offensive things to referees, causing many to resign from their referee positions. We currently have a shortage of referees available to cover games. While a game is being played, the referee is in charge of that game. No matter how much you may disagree with a referee's call, you must take your complaints to your coach, who can file a formal complaint with the Reading Berks Junior Soccer League. We should be setting good examples for our children by following the principles of good sportsmanship. We all like to win, but win or lose we must act with dignity and respect for one another. Please follow the below guideline while enjoying your child soccer game:

- **Spectators must remain on the designated side of the field.**
- **Spectators may not stand behind the goals or on the team side.**
- **Spectators must stay five (5) feet from the sideline to leave room for the line runner and ball throw-ins.**
- **Spectators are not coaches and are not allowed to coach or yell instructions to the players.**
- **Spectators may supportively cheer for their team and players. They should not criticize any players or teams. If you do not have something good to say then say nothing. Criticism should be offered constructively to your coach or your child AFTER the game or practice.**
- **Spectators should not speak to the referee unless they desire to give him/her positive encouragement AFTER the game is over.**
- **Smoking and alcohol is NOT permitted at soccer fields including Governor Mifflin School and Alvernia Sovereign Park Fields.**

Failure to follow these guidelines could result in expulsion from the sidelines. Poor sportsmanship could jeopardize the entire club's participation in League activities. It is the coach's responsibility to ask any spectator to leave the field for violation of these guidelines.

Coaches volunteer a lot of their time to train and lead your children. Please remember that the coach is the leader of the team. The GMSC is a 100% volunteer organization. Coaches, board members, field and concession crews all donate their time to make soccer a positive experience for our children.

If you have an issue that you cannot resolve with your coach, you may contact the GMSC parent representative. Please refer to our website <http://www.gmscmustangs.com> often for updates and board member addresses.

Thank you,

The GMSC Board