

## **Mississippi Soccer Association Policy Manual Code of Ethics for Players**

- a. I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at all times.
- b. I will remember that soccer is an opportunity to learn and have fun.
- c. I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol; and expect everyone to refrain from their use at all soccer games.
- d. I will do the best I can each day, remembering that all players have talents and weaknesses the same as I do.
- e. I will treat my coaches, other players and coaches, game officials, other administrators, and fans with respect at all times; regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- f. I will concentrate on playing soccer. Always giving my best effort.
- g. I will play by the rules at all times.
- h. I will at all times control my temper, resisting the temptation to retaliate.
- i. I will exercise self control.
- j. Conduct during competition towards play of the game and all officials shall be in accordance with appropriate behavior and in accordance with FIFA's "Laws of the Game", and in adherence to MSA rules.
- k. While traveling, shall conduct themselves so as to bring credit to themselves and their team.
- l. **Alcohol, illegal drugs and unauthorized prescription drugs shall not be possessed, consumed or distributed before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex.**

Failure to comply with the MSA Code of Ethics may result in the suspension of the privilege to participate in MSA sanctioned events, for the following periods:

- **1st offense suspension minimum fifteen (15) days to a maximum of Five (5) years**
- **2nd offense suspension for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of Ten (10) years**
- **3rd offense suspension for a minimum of five (5) years to a maximum of Twenty five (25) years.**

**NOTE: Any individual charged with a violation of this Code of Ethics, except for cautions and send-offs as stated in the Laws of the Game, Tournament Rules or MSA Disciplinary policy including allegations of referee abuse or assault, shall be afforded due process as defined in MSA's rules before the implementation of any suspension.**