



General Information

Mission Statement

We will provide an environment in which all children in our community:

1. Can have fun
2. Learn sportsmanship
3. Realize the benefits of teamwork
4. Develop soccer skills

Sportsmanship is defined as the ability to be gracious in winning or losing. To accomplish this goal the coaches, the parents, and the players take active roles. As a coach, you are directly responsible for eliminating unsporting behavior from practice and games. A responsible coach will not allow unacceptable behavior and will address the behavior when it occurs. Permitting players to commit acts of taunting without a reprimand or removal from the game in essence is telling the players that it is okay to act in an unsporting manner toward competitors.

Likewise, if a coach behaves in an unsporting way, he or she is sending mixed messages. Remember that many times the children will mirror the actions of their coach.

Coaches should have a rule for all parents, explained at the "Parent Orientation Meeting", that they are not allowed to make critical remarks about the players, the coaches, or the officials. Instead, they are encouraged to provide supportive comments. You should speak privately with parents who do not obey this rule. You need to be firm and fair with parents and emphasize that unsporting behavior is not and will not be tolerated.

Volunteer Coach Responsibilities:

1. Follow City, OSSO, and JCSC policies and procedures.
2. Supervise the assigned team practice and game conduct.
3. Attend all coaches clinics.
4. Establish and maintain a current telephone listing of players, coaches and emergency numbers.
5. Attend all scheduled practices and games. Arrive early and stay until the last player has left.
6. Organize appropriate practices (location, time, and content).
7. Communicate game and practice schedules with team families.
8. Inform team members of the need for water and required equipment during practices and games.
9. Provide a safe environment for practice and impress upon the team the importance of safety.



10. While coaching, always maintain a neat orderly appearance.
11. Use positive influence, understanding, and appropriate language when coaching your team.
12. Always conduct yourself in a professional manner. Remember that you are representing our community and you are a role model to the team members and in some cases, your team's parents.
13. Require appropriate conduct of your team, assistant coaches, and team parents.
14. Provide a positive example, accomplish your responsibilities, and remember that you easily influence the children you coach. The use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs before or during practice and games is strictly prohibited.
15. Participation is the primary objective of our youth soccer program. Coaches are expected to know and follow the substitution rules and minimum playing time rules for the division they are playing.
16. Coaches must read and abide by the **OSSO Coaches Standard of Ethics**. See Attachment B at the end of this handbook.

Time Requirements:

1. Maximum 3 events a week. A game counts as one event.
2. Practices duration should be equivalent to the length of the game per age group. U5 and U6 should practice no longer than 45minutes per session.
3. Practices are scheduled at the coach's discretion.
4. Games will be scheduled by the organization. Any request for changes must be coordinated by the OSSO Game Coordinator.

Available Training:

1. Coaches clinics will be scheduled by OSSO.
2. Periodic coaches meetings will be scheduled throughout the season and the Age Group Coordinators will notify each coach of date, time, and location.
3. The OSSO Handbook will be made available to each head coach.
4. Training videotapes are available at the local library.
5. Training information is available on the Internet.

Qualifications:

1. Successful completion of the KidSafe Form.
2. Attend Coaches Clinic.
3. Ability and desire to work in the best interest of the children.
4. Each coach must sign and abide by Attachment B, the **Ocean Springs Soccer Organization Coaches Standard of Ethics**.



Season Schedule:

2009-2010 Season

Coaches meeting	10/15/09
Teams may start practice	10/16/09
Start games	11/07/09
End games	
U5, U6, U8	02/20/10
U10, U12	03/06/10
OSSO Tournament (U10 and U12)	03/19-21/10
District (U10 and up)	04/17-18/10
State (U10 and up)	05/01-02/10

OSSO Board Members:

President:	Karl Beatty	875-1640
Vice President:		
Secretary:	Candice Baggett	249-6679
Treasurer:		
Game Coordinator:	Rory Johnson	282-4202
Registrar:	Barbi Beatty	238-9900
Referee Coordinator:	Joey Williams	238-1660
Coach Coordinator:	Jay Fike	697-8830
Publicity Coordinator:	Bryan Williams	818-2847