

Arkansas State Soccer Association **Code of Conduct**

Any person (player, parent, coach, referee, board member, volunteer, or any other individual) acting on behalf of or associated with the Arkansas State Soccer Association (ASSA) is expected to conduct themselves appropriately and abide by this Code of Conduct. All ASSA members have a responsibility to act and speak appropriately when representing our association. At all ASSA sponsored activities, in and out of the state of Arkansas, the following code of conduct is in effect:

- 1) ASSA members will refrain from participating in or encouraging any of the following:
 - Assault
 - Harassment
 - Racial or Religious Violence
 - Sexual Violence or Harassment
 - Taunting or Showboating
 - Vandalism
 - Drug, alcohol, and/or tobacco use
 - Gambling
 - Inappropriate language and/or actions
 - Providing false information
 - Harassment of other club officials, referees, coaches and/or players
- 2) ASSA members will be an example of good sportsmanship to all players, coaches and parents, and address all players in a positive, encouraging manner.
- 3) ASSA members will respect and support all coaches, players and officials through words and actions.
- 4) ASSA members will view opponents as necessary friends that provide players the opportunity to participate.
- 5) ASSA members will abide by all established policies and decisions of the ASSA board of directors.

Steps that will be taken if a violation has occurred:

First offense – a meeting must take place with all involved persons and the ASSA Appeals and Discipline Committee. Participation in all ASSA activities will cease until this meeting has occurred. Punishment will be determined after this meeting has occurred.

Second offense – the person in violation will be suspended from any ASSA involvement for a period of time to be determined by the ASSA Appeals and Discipline Committee. Any future return to ASSA involvement is not guaranteed but may be granted, depending on the nature and severity of the infraction. Involvement will then be granted on a probationary basis. Any violation during that probation period will result in permanent suspension from the ASSA.

If an offense is severe in nature (extreme, violent and/or dangerous) the ASSA reserves the right to move directly to the consequences of the second offense, after which a meeting may take place.