

Berkeley Soccer Association

Policy 07-06

Code of Conduct

APPLICABILITY: The Berkeley Soccer Association (BSA) policy applies to all administrators, coaches, parents and players that participate within the BSA.

POLICY STATEMENT: Parents and players registering in the Berkeley Soccer Association are required to complete and sign the Code of Conduct form. There are no exceptions to this requirement. Specific circumstances and conditions not addressed in this policy will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the Berkeley Soccer Association Executive Board.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. BSA Executive Board

a. The Executive Board will consider all questions, exceptions and challenges to this policy within 10 business days of receipt of the question or at the next regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting. A quorum of Board members is required to make final judgments.

b. The Board will identify two Board members to investigate all reports and claims of violations of the Code of Conduct. The designated Board members will report to the entire Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting if factors dictate.

c. The Board will consider the observations, opinions and views of all parties involved in the violation as well as those that may have witnessed the event.

d. The Board will meet, at the request of the individual(s) involved to reconsider an initial decision. However, any reconsideration will be made only in view of new information. It is not the Board's intent to go over the same facts and information used when it rendered its initial decision. The Board will set a special meeting to hear facts associated with a request to reconsider.

e. The Executive Board will apply the penalties (see Penalties Associated with Violations of the Code below) as defined in this policy in cases involving violations of the code of conduct.

f. If an individual league or NJ Youth Soccer should determine that a violation of its code of conduct has taken place and this involves one or more individuals associated

with Berkeley Soccer, the Board may assign penalties to those individuals over and above those assigned by that league or NJYS.

g. Rulings of a majority of the Executive Board are final.

2. Coaches, Players, Parents and Guardians

a. Must adhere to the Code of Conduct. The focus must always be on sportsmanship, fair play and the intent to develop our children into respectful young adults.

b. May request an opportunity to meet with the Executive Board to present information prior to a Board decision or to request a reconsider after the Board has made a decision.

PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT:

The penalty for the first offense is ejection from the game and probation for five games for parents, players and guardians. If the individual involved is a coach, he or she must appear before the Berkeley Soccer Association Executive Board to explain his actions before he will be permitted to coach in another game.

The penalty for a second offense is ejection from the game, a two game suspension and probation for remainder of that season. If the individual involved is a parent, his or her child will also be suspended for two games. If the individual involved is a coach, he or she is suspended for the remainder of the season after this second offense.

The penalty for a third offense is ejection from the game and a 10 game suspension for the individual involved. If the individual involved is a parent, his or her child will also be suspended for five games.

Any individual (coaches, players, parents or guardians) committing an act of violence (as defined by criminal code) will be suspended immediately, and at the first offense. This applies to any acts of violence committed within the context of a game or practice or preceding and following a game or practice. Additionally, Berkeley Soccer Association will fully support local police departments in any investigations and prosecutions of individuals committing acts of violence. **This strong position is reflective of the Berkeley Soccer Associations zero tolerance for acts of violence.**

This policy will remain in place until modified or eliminated by the Berkeley Soccer Association Executive Board.