



Stoneham Soccer Club
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Dear Parents,

As we start a new soccer season, we want to take a moment to remind all of us on ways we can make this a great experience for all our players. Frequently we receive feedback about parental behavior at games. Please take a moment to read some friendly reminders on how we can all help create a great environment for Stoneham Youth Soccer players.

- Be Positive. Be supportive. Cheer for the team. Encourage all of the players. Keep negative comments to yourself. Remember that the players and coaches are doing the best they can and keep in perspective that it is youth soccer.
- Please do not coach from the sideline. Many times the instruction from a spectator is exactly the opposite of the instruction given by the coach. Allow the players the freedom to make their own decisions and learn from their mistakes. Spectator statements like "Stay Wide," "Clear It," "Pass The Ball," "Get Rid of It," "Move Up," "Move Back," and the infamous "Boot It!" tend to undermine the need for players to communicate with each other and undermine the coaches.
- "Boot it" or kickball is not soccer. Encouraging or rewarding it with cheers greatly hinders your child's development in dribbling, 1v1 moves, and passing to an open teammate.
- Please do not address players on either team during the games, except to encourage.
- Treat the referees with respect and never question their decisions.
- Players may play multiple positions. The coach will decide what is best for the team. Parents are expected to support and respect these coaching decisions.

See you on the field,

Stoneham Soccer Club

Player and Coach Development Committee

Shooting For Excellence