

Evanston Youth Soccer is committed to providing players with a fun, positive, and secure environment in which to learn and enjoy the game of soccer. We do not tolerate bullying at any practice, game or other Evanston Youth Soccer sanctioned event. We will promote a telling atmosphere. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is taking place is expected to report the incident. Players and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to a player, group of players and/or teammates, and which create a hostile or intimidating environment, or which negatively affects a player's physical and/or emotional well-being. Bullying is any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it is a single incident or a series of incidents that results in intentional pain and distress to the victim.

Procedures for Players, Parents, Coaches, and the Evanston Youth Soccer Board.

1. Players and/or their parents should report bullying incidents to the team coach or manager. If the problem persists, parents can go to the Evanston Youth Soccer website and fill out a bullying report found there. The report will be reviewed by the Soccer Board and a member will contact the parents to inform them of action being taken.
2. It is the responsibility of the team coach or manager to investigate the report and determine what action needs to be taken. In all cases the team coach or manager will fill out the bullying report google form. In some cases, the Evanston Youth Soccer Board will consult with the coach for what action should be taken.
3. In all cases of reported bullying by a player, parents of the player who was bullied shall be informed immediately and may be asked to meet with the respective team coach and/or board member to discuss the incident. In all cases, strict confidentiality shall be maintained. It is not our goal to make a public example of reported incidents.
4. In all cases, the parents of any player who is reported to be bullying will be contacted immediately by the respective team coach and asked to meet to discuss the incident to help the bully or bullies change their behavior.

Consequences of Bullying

1. In a first offense situation involving bullying, an attempt will be made to encourage the bully (or bullies) to modify their behavior for their benefit, for the benefit of the person bullied, and for the team. An attempt will be made by the coach, manager, or parent(s) to reconcile the situation between players (age and level of maturity and or severity of offense must be considered).
2. After the incident/incidents have been investigated and addressed, the situation will continue to be monitored by the respective team coach, team manager, and players' parents to ensure the problem is resolved.
3. If the bullying persists, disciplinary action against a player may be taken by the team coach and/or the Evanston Youth Soccer Board which may include, but is not limited to, immediate suspension from participation in practices or game(s) for a period. In some severe cases, the police may be contacted.