



WINCHESTER YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB



RULES OF PARENT CONDUCT

Children can expect:

- Help, encouragement and support.
- Not to be embarrassed by the adults watching them.

Children can expect that adults do not:

- Attempt to coach or manipulate the players whilst they are playing.
- Use jargon or dictate tactics.
- Shout, argue, swear, become violent or use sarcasm.
- Ignore children who need help.
- Assess players by their incompetences.

But children can expect adults to:

- Look for aspects to praise, particularly in players who might not otherwise get attention.
- Praise good behaviour quickly to show that adults value it.
- Praise effort and performance more than results.
- Assess players with regard to their skill and attitude.
- Emphasis playing first and winning second.
- Display patience.
- Give clear idea of the behaviour expected.
- Give examples of excellent behaviour.
- Show consistency.
- Help understand the rules.

Please remember that children are easily led, anxious to please and prone to over enthusiasm. Therefore plenty of praise and positive reinforcement is needed - especially with beginners.

Children find it hard to understand negative instruction and easier to understand positive reinforcement. This can frequently mean playing down the result and playing up the performance. This reduces the child's anxiety and decreases their worry about failing. Remember that children do not mean to make mistakes; we should accept mistakes as a necessary way of learning.

Make sure the players play by the rules. The majority of children at these ages will not knowingly cheat.

Finally, work with the adults, not against them and by doing so reinforces a positive attitude amongst the children.

In accordance with FA guidelines the club has a **Child Welfare Officer**: Sara Elloway, 92 Lovedon Lane, Kings Worthy, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 7NS Tel: 01962 885064.