

BAYSIDE ARGONAUTS FOOTBALL CLUB



For Parents

To support your children play football (soccer) at Bayside Argonauts Soccer Club please take some time and look through the notes below. Your child and team coach will thank you for it.

- Please let the kids play without instructions. Think of it like a classroom with the coach as the teacher. Would you go into your child's class and yell instructions?
- If you want to be involved become a coach/assistant-coach. We are always looking for volunteers. Talk to your respective head of coaching.
- Do encourage all (opposition and your child's team) by clapping when they show good football skills and creativity such as taking players on, running with the ball.
- Respect the referee, players, parents and officials from all clubs.

Barcelona FC parents, see section on Parent Conduct "parents are allowed to encourage but not correct"

<http://theworldgame.sbs.com.au/craig-foster/blog/1122269/Junior-lessons-from-Barca-Part-1>

- The real reason why our kids quit sport
"The car ride home after playing sport can be a game-changer"
<http://mobile.news.com.au/lifestyle/parenting/the-real-reason-why-our-kids-quit-sport/story-fnet08ui-1226645601355>

- "Researchers also found that the more parents yell. The more their kids are turned off sport".

<http://www.dailylife.com.au/life-and-love/parenting-and-families/when-parents-get-abusive-on-the-football-field-20130826-2sm2q.html>

15 Things to keep in mind when watching from the sidelines:

Let the coaches' coach. Telling your child to do something different from what her coach is saying can be distracting and confusing.

Let the kids play. A yelling parent can cause kids to lose focus on the field. Trust that the coaches have instructed your child well; if your child makes a mistake, don't worry, he or she will likely learn from it.

Don't discuss the play of specific young players in front of other parents. When parents act like their child is the star, or make negative comments about other children, it can be hurtful and kill parent harmony, which is often a key to the overall success of a youth sport.

Address issues in a positive way. If you hear parents making negative comments, listen patiently and then speak to the positive qualities of the player, coach or family.

Don't complain about coaches to other parents. Once the behind-the-back criticism begins, it might never end. If you have a genuine issue with your child's coach, plan a private meeting in which you can air your concerns.

Be encouraging. The coaches are there to guide young athletes through their mistakes, not the parents. Positive comments from the sidelines are more likely to boost children on the field.

Avoid making negative comments about players on the other team. Always remember that these are kids, not paid professionals. Negative comments can be hurtful to the young player as well as her family.

Be courteous. Keep interaction with parents on the other team as healthy and positive as possible.

The "other" team isn't the enemy. Just as you're out to watch your child play soccer, so too are the opposing team's parents out to watch their kids. The only difference between sides here is the colour of the jerseys.

Don't criticize the referees. Refs are going to miss calls – it's part of the game – but they're trying to be fair and objective.

Don't blame others. Whether it's towards the ref or anyone else, when a parent directs outbursts at someone for something that's happened, it signals to the children that they can blame others when things go wrong.

Don't offer superficial support. Thanking an official for a call that went "your" team's way can be annoying and alienating. The ref wouldn't have made the call if she didn't think it was correct.

Avoid walking up and down the sidelines. Following play, yelling instruction can be unnerving for the players and embarrassing to the children involved. If parents want to coach, they should pursue their coaching certification and then apply for openings.

Be conscientious. Parents should take a moment to think about their words or actions before they act in the heat of the moment. Just as players are punished for inappropriate behaviour, parents can be as well.

Let it go. If something happens on the field, the time to address it is not immediately after the game. Parents shouldn't harass officials, coaches, other parents or players, and should speak positively with their child afterward. Sometimes the lessons learned on the drive home are as important as those learned on the field.

NO SMOKING :- Legislation has been passed with Strictly NO SMOKING on or near the ground when junior players are playing or training.

No smoking at junior sport! - On 6 November 2013 the Victorian Government amended the Tobacco Act 1987 and adopted a smoking ban whereby smoking has been banned within a 20 meter radius of a sports ground located on public land while being used for children's sporting event. The ban applies to any organised sporting activity for children including training and competition and must be in effect for the whole period including 30 minutes prior to the event and 20 minutes immediately following the event. The ban applies to all clubhouses and other club facilities and should the laws not be obeyed an infringement will be issued. These restrictions are scheduled to commence on 1 April 2014.