

FYSA

Coaching Manual

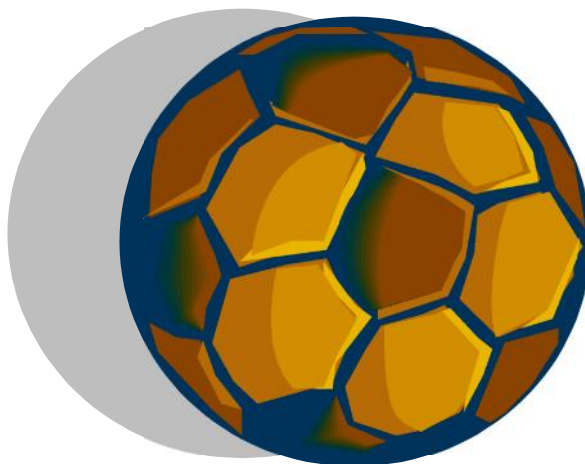


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I. Coaching Selection Process:

FYSA is always seeking enthusiastic volunteers who are willing to take on the challenges of coaching a team. Any person interested in coaching must complete a coaching application (<http://falmouthsoccer.com/coaches/coachapp/>) each year and submit it to the FYSA Board of Directors, specifically the coaching committee to be considered. It is helpful if a summary of coaching qualifications and/or licenses is submitted along with the request. The player registration forms also contain a section where individuals may indicate willingness to volunteer as a coach or assistant coach. A coaching request reminder will be sent via email each year to all previous coaches.

The Coaching committee will be responsible for selecting coaches and assistant coaches at each of the designated age groups. In the event of multiple requests for a single age group, the committee will make their selection based upon previous experience, credentials and licensing.

II. Coaching Commitment & Requirements:

As with any volunteer position, there will be a significant commitment of time and effort on the part of a new coach. First and foremost, the obvious commitment will be that required to run the team—practices, games, etc. Please refer to sections on practice and games for guidelines as to the time involvement for these.

Additionally, there are strict requirements pertaining to proper licensing and certification with the town and state that must be satisfied.

Town Certification

-) All coaches beginning with the U9 and U10 age groups must complete the Coaching certification course offered through the town. This is a very basic and brief course that is required for our club insurance purposes. Newcomers to the course must complete a classroom portion which consists of a general coaching overview applicable to all sports, and then an outdoor “field” portion which provides some very basic soccer knowledge of skills and drills. A person who has already completed the course for another sport need only to participate in the “field” portion. Once this certification has been completed, it is necessary to only “renew” your membership by signing a renewal continuing education form.
-) The course is held on one evening, typically during mid to late August at the Motz Building (Mason Gym – corner of Lunt Road and Middle Road) and lasts approximately 3 hours for both portions. Each year, the town provides us with a list of coaches which FYSA will forward advising coaches of their certification status and requirements.

USSF National License requirements

-) *Youth Module:* It is necessary for all U9 and U10 coaches to complete the Youth Module Course. This is a 4 hour course which provides very pertinent information to first time coaches FYSA will typically notify new coaches of these courses, and

they are also posted on www.soccermaine.com. The Youth Module is typically offered a few times throughout the year at locations around greater Portland. There will usually be a course in August just prior to the season beginning, and if we have enough new coaches, we attempt to arrange a local course. FYSA will reimburse the cost of the course to all participating coaches.

- J **E License:** U11 and above, at least one coach on the sideline is required to have their E License. This is a 16 hour course providing the next level of tactical and technical knowledge for coaches. All coaches involved in this age group are urged to take the course but it is mandatory for head coaches since again at least one coach on the sideline must hold the E license. As with the Youth Module, Soccer Maine will typically offer this course a few times throughout the year, and usually just before the fall season. The cost of this course will also be reimbursed to the participant by FYSA.

Risk Management Form

- J Soccer Maine wants to ensure that we are providing the safest possible environment for our children and therefore requires a signed Risk Management form from each individual coach. By signing this form, coaches are confirming they have never been convicted of a crime and consenting to a possible background check. This form must be submitted on GotSoccer.com when registering as a coach. Coaches are unable to coach for FYSA or any Soccer Maine program until the Risk Management process has been completed, therefore it's imperative to complete ASAP once you receive notice from FYSA.

III. Team Selection/Evaluation Process:

FYSA has balanced teams for U9-U12 and holds evaluations to determine teams for U13 and U14 See more on this under (*FYSA Philosophy on Division 1 and Division 2*). Team establishment by age group is done on the following basis:

- J **U9:** With U9 being the youngest age group, it is presumed all players are of similar experience and teams will pretty much be made at random, dividing the number of players as equally as possible into teams. To ensure balance head coaches may be consulted.
- J **U10-U12:** At the end of each season, the FYSA coaching committee will solicit player rankings from all coaches. Coaches rate each player 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 (with 5 being the strongest) on soccer ability, athleticism, and attitude. These rankings will assist in creating teams as balanced as possible the following year for U10-U12 teams. There will obviously be some new players added to the group and they will be divided at random as best as possible. FYSA builds new team each year (i.e. no "carry over" of teams from prior year.)
- J **U13-U14:** at these age groups, player evaluations are held (usually during the month of May) with the purpose of dividing players into 2 teams, if the number of players suffice--a Division 1 and a Division 2 team. FYSA's philosophy on this is

elaborated upon in the following taken from the FYSA website
<http://falmouthsoccer.com/>

FYSA Philosophy on Division 1 and Division 2

Beginning at the U12 age group, Soccer Maine coordinates and oversees league play in which teams compete against each other in an organized and more competitive fashion than seen at the U9 - U11 age groups. At U12 – U14 Soccer Maine has created two divisions, with Division 1 being the more competitive of the two. At the beginning of the season, teams are required to declare themselves either Division 1 or Division 2.

Beginning with the 2011 fall season, FYSA has decided to group players by ability level at the U13 and U14 age groups only. FYSA will be fielding balanced teams at the U12 age.

Within this system, we continue to strive to maintain an environment in which the children have the best experience athletically and socially. The primary objective at this age is skill development, which is best served by getting children the maximum number of touches on the ball and the maximum amount of involvement in the game as possible.

Over the years, we have found that the success of the system depends upon continued support from coaches, players, and parents. Perhaps more than any other factor, good coaching that stresses skill development and team-building is critical. We strive to communicate the proper values to all of the children, so they learn the importance of enjoying the sport and developing as players, as opposed to winning championships. We do our best to try and accommodate all of the children in our town, and feel that added cooperation from the community in promoting all of the positive aspects of the sport and league will go a long way in making all of the players feel quite comfortable.

IV. Soccer Maine Organizational Structure:

Soccer Maine is the governing body that Falmouth Youth Soccer Association is a member of, and thus FYSA is under United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and United States Youth Soccer Association. We participate in the Soccer Maine sanctioned leagues. The league play scheduling and organization for all age groups is determined by Soccer Maine. Currently, they deem the U9, U10 and U11 age groups to be “non-results oriented”. In other words, there are no formal results of games maintained. At the end of the season, U9-U11 Festivals are arranged for the teams to participate in end of the year mini tournaments. These tournaments as well are just for fun with no champions determined. There are festivals held separately for boys and girls at each age group, the locations of which are contained within the Soccer Maine Fall Handbook.

Age Brackets under Soccer Maine: U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14

U9, U10, U11: Post Season Play - Non Results Oriented Structure

- J In 2006 the state mandated that towns with enough players to form legitimate U9 teams must do so. In the absence of enough players, then U10 teams are formed with a combination of U9 and U10 Players. U8 players (players not 8 years old by July 31 preceding the fall season) cannot play on a Soccer Maine sanctioned team.
- J Leagues will be established by Soccer Maine with geographic location in mind. Schedules will be distributed to all coaches in August and consist of games on Sundays. Teams will typically have one game scheduled per week, although starting in 2016 the six league games will be played over five weeks. At the end of the season, there will be a non-results oriented festival for each age group. The boys and girls will be held separately at locations to be announced in the Fall Handbook. The festivals consist of a single day tournament atmosphere where each team will play approximately 3 games. Coaches will be required to provide player passes and rosters at the registration before the first game.
- J The maximum roster size allowed by the state is 12 for U9 and U10 and 18 for U11 (for U11 approval from Soccer Maine needed for more than 16 players).

U12, U13, U14: Post Season Play – Division 1 & Division 2

- J Beginning at the U12 age group for the Division 1 league, the state adopts a more competitive league format resulting in a state champion at each age group.
- J All teams must declare themselves either Division 1 or Division 2 (with Division 1 being more competitive) and will participate in a league within their Division.
- J Since FYSA has balanced teams at U12, currently Soccer Maine will allow FYSA U12 teams to declare themselves either a Division 1 or a Division 2 team at the beginning of the season.
- J Schedules are distributed in August with the Soccer Maine creating different leagues in which the teams must compete. Teams will typically have one game scheduled per week, although starting in 2016 the six league games will be played over five weeks.
- J For playoff determination, the top 16 ranked teams in the Division 1 U13 & U14 brackets and the top 24 teams ranked in the Division 1 U12 brackets will compete for the Champions Cup. All other regular season Division 1 teams positioned below these respective rankings and Division 2 teams will compete for the Classic Cup. Regular season Division 1 teams will be seeded in the top portion of the Classic Cup seeding.
- J The maximum roster size allowed by the state for U12 is 18 (approval from Soccer Maine needed for more than 16 players). The maximum roster size allowed for U13 and U14 is 22 (approval from Soccer Maine needed for more than 18 players).

V. Organizing Your Team:

If you read no other section of this manual, this section will be the most important for first time coaches.

- J) **Coaches Meeting:** FYSA will hold a coaches meeting sometime during the month of August. Notification will be sent to all coaches via email. The main purpose of the meeting will be to establish coaching expectations and provide important information about the upcoming season. There will also usually be a stretching clinic in conjunction with this meeting offered by a local physical therapist or sports medicine professional or related handouts.
- J) **Assistant Coaches:** the coaching committee makes every attempt to pair coaches with assistant coaches on each team. However, in some cases, there are simply not enough volunteers to accomplish this. If you are head coach assigned to a team without an assistant, it is strongly suggested you attempt to solicit an assistant from one of your team parents. It is not necessary that this person have any soccer or coaching experience, especially at the younger age groups. Just having another person help to run practices and games will make it a much more productive experience for everyone involved. Although not required, assistants are urged to also satisfy the licensing requirements described in the above Coaching Requirements section in the event a head coach must be absent for a game; it is mandated that there always be at least one properly licensed coach on the sideline of all games. All coaches and team managers must register with Soccer Maine and satisfy required background checks.
- J) **Medical Release Forms:** The state registration forms which each parent fills out at registration contain a general Medical Release. These will be compiled for each team and given to each coach by the registrar just prior to the season starting. It is imperative that each coach maintain copies of these with him/her at all times (practices and games) in the event of injury.
- J) **Parent Meeting:** It's highly recommended for all coaches to set up a brief parent meeting prior to the first practice. Depending on coach preference, this can be a meeting set up at your house or simply something done at the field prior to the first practice. It's a great way for you as a coach to meet all of the parents and explain your coaching philosophy. Other issues to be covered should include the following:
 1. ***Team Administrator:*** solicit a volunteer to act as your team administrator to handle everything from game scheduling to creating snack schedule, collecting player pass photos and serving as the team point of contact for the FFC tournament. It is suggested you find a volunteer for this position as soon as possible after receiving your rosters—this will make your coaching life much easier! Team managers must register with Soccer Maine and satisfy required background checks.
 2. ***Practices:*** Practice dates and times should be covered at this meeting. The frequency and duration of practice are left to the discretion of the coach,

but you can find FYSA suggested guidelines in the “Practice” section of this manual.

3. *Key to a Fun Season Handout*: Our website (www.falmouthsoccer.com) contains a link to “Key to a Fun Season” which makes a great handout for parents at this meeting (see Attachment 1).
4. *Zero Tolerance Policy*: review this policy with all parents and provide copies to them (see Attachment 2); also on www.falmouthsoccer.com.
5. *Playing Time & Schedule Information*: see sections below.
6. *Falmouth Fall Classic*: This is a good opportunity to notify everyone of the Falmouth Fall Classic tournament and volunteer commitments required of families (refer to Falmouth Fall Classic section of manual).

-) **Fall Handbook**: this is published by Soccer Maine every season and will be posted on SoccerMaine.com usually in July. PLEASE BE SURE TO LOCATE AND PRINT A COPY OF THIS HANDBOOK AS IT CONTAINS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Contained within the handbook will be information regarding schedules, league format, rules, and state cup process.
-) **Equipment**: FYSA has a designated equipment manager every year who will handle ordering and distribution of equipment to coaches. Coaches will all be provided with game and practice balls (size 4 for U9-U12 age groups and size 5 for U13-U14), practice cones and a first aid kit. All equipment should be returned to the equipment manager at the conclusion of the season.
-) **Uniforms**: FYSA has a designated Uniform manager who is responsible for overseeing the ordering and distribution of uniforms each year. Uniform orders are placed at the time of registration and mailed directly to players just prior to the season. Players should order the four mandatory uniforms items: jersey; shorts; tee shirt (white under armour); and socks. Players also have the opportunity to order extra optional items through the web store. Replacement uniforms can be ordered by players in subsequent years as necessary. Uniform manager will assign numbers as, per Soccer Maine rules, no two players may have the same number on their uniforms (no duplicate numbers on any team or age group).
-) **Frozen Roster**: Finalized Team rosters will be issued by the state and stamped “Frozen Roster”. These will be distributed to all coaches at the Coaches Meeting. It is important that coaches keep their rosters with them at all times, and they will be required to participate in end of season festivals and/or playoffs along with the player passes.
-) **Player Passes**: Player passes will be printed by the FYSA Registrar and provided to each coach by mid-September. It is necessary to attach a very small, passport-like photo to the back of each pass, and it is also necessary for the players to sign their passes, exactly as their name appears on the pass. The team administrator should be responsible for obtaining all of the photos, and some find it easiest to use a digital camera to take photos of the players all at once. It is very important that coaches

keep these passes even after the season concludes as they are valid for ONE YEAR and some players may need them during the spring season.

-) **Website:** FYSA maintains a very informative website which contains many important forms, links, etc. <http://falmouthsoccer.com/>

VI. Practice:

-) **Suggested Guidelines:** At the U9 and U10 age groups, it is recommended to hold 1 to 2 practices per week. These practices should last anywhere from 60 to 90 minutes and is up to the coach's discretion, but keep in mind it can be challenging to keep the attention of 8 and 9 year olds for a full 90 minutes. For U11 and above, it becomes more customary to hold 2 practices per week of 60-90 minutes, but at the U13 and U14 age groups, the competition of middle school sports sometimes makes it difficult to hold more than one practice per week.
-) **Practice Days & Times:** FYSA will hold a Coaches Meeting in August prior to the start of the season. All coaches are required to attend and among topics of discussion will be the assignment of practice days/times for teams.
-) **Fields:** FYSA typically has access to fields at Community Park. We are at the mercy of the town when it comes to determining whether or not fields are "playable" for practices and/or games. The town needs to be fairly protective of its fields and will err on the side of caution when it comes to closing fields for play. During the week, coaches can check the website www.town.falmouth.me.us under bulletins. Also, FYSA will normally send out an email to all coaches when they are notified of closures. During the weekend, coaches may call the town hall number 781-5253 and hit 6 for cancellations and updates and also check the town website and email notices. It is imperative that all coaches and teams respect the decision of the town if they close fields due to weather or field conditions. We work hard to maintain a positive relationship with the town. If the town does decide to close the fields, that is final. No coaches are allowed to contact the town to try to make other arrangements.

The fields are commonly referred to as follows:

Gazebo: This is the large open field with the „Gazebo“ that you come to first upon entering Community Park. Usually U9 and U10 games will be located here.

Plateau: Once you pass Gazebo field and come to the second parking lot on the right, the first field you see is Plateau field used for U13 and above.

Football: Immediately next to Plateau with the Football Goals used for football.

Bowl: This is the lower field below the Plateau that is not visible from the parking lot and used for U13 and U14.

Baseball Outfield: Located in the fields all the way to the rear of Community Park used for U11 and U12.

Softball Outfield: Located all the way to the rear of Community Park used typically for U11 and U12.

Multi Purpose: Large open area directly behind Softball field in the rear of Community Park used typically for U11 and U12.

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-) **Goals:** For liability purposes, coaches must ensure all goals are secured by sandbags or stakes for all games and practices. These will be provided by FYSA and located at all field locations.
-) **Carry In/Carry Out:** There are no trash receptacles at any of the town fields. We are all responsible for removing any bottles, cans or other trash from the fields after each use. It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure this is done properly, so make your life easier and be sure to lecture all of your players, parents and opposing teams in this regard. At the end of each practice and game, please ensure there is no trash left anywhere on the fields. It is the Town of Falmouth who grants us access to all these fields, and failure to comply with their rules could jeopardize our access to the fields.
-) **Practice Drills:** some great web resources for practice sessions and drills:
- <http://www.decatursports.com/soccerdrills.htm>
- <http://www.footy4kids.co.uk/>
- <http://www.kysoccer.net/coaches/training/lesson.plans.html>
- <http://www.soccerperformance.org/>
- <http://eteamz.com/soccer/pills/jpill.htm>

VII. Game Schedules/Info:

-) **Season Overview: Length, Number of Games, Tournaments:** The season begins with games the weekend before Labor Day weekend. There will typically be one “league” game for each team scheduled on each Sunday from then until mid-October (although during one weekend teams will have two games), with the exception of Labor Day weekend and Columbus Day weekend, which are usually reserved for tournament play. Over Labor Day weekend, FYSA teams participate in the Cumberland Just for Fun tournament. During Columbus Day weekend FYSA is the host of the Falmouth Fall Classic Tournament which all FYSA teams participate in.
-) **League Games vs. Non-League Games:** Each age group will receive a schedule of “league” games prior to the start of the season. For the U11 and below age groups, these games are non-results oriented as previously mentioned. For the competitive age groups, U12 and above, the results of these games will be a factor in determining seeding for the end of the season playoffs. Most league games will be scheduled on Sundays with home and away teams listed. Because of bracket sizes, it is occasionally necessary for Soccer Maine to schedule one Saturday game during the season. It will be the responsibility of the coaches and/or team administrators to communicate as to the game times, which will be done by a FYSA central coordinator.
-) **Scheduling:** It is up to the discretion of the coaches to schedule any additional “non-league” or “friendly” games. The younger age groups may opt to schedule only a

couple of non-league games, or possibly none at all. The older, competitive age groups, may opt to schedule more of these non-league games. A comprehensive spreadsheet containing coach information for all clubs and all teams will be distributed by Soccer Maine in August which will facilitate the process of scheduling games.

-) **Referee Payments/Reimbursement Procedure:** It is the responsibility of home coaches to coordinate the referee payments. The fees are to be split by the coaches evenly for all games as follows:

U9 & U10: one center referee = \$30

U11 & U12: Center Referee = \$40; 2 linesman = \$20 each

U13 & U14: Center Referee = \$50; 2 linesman = \$25 each

All FYSA head coaches will be reimbursed for these costs at the BEGINNING of the season. They will receive a check at the Coaches Meeting. For any friendlies coaches should keep a record of referee payments and submit a Reimbursement Request form to the club treasurer at the end of the season listing the date of game, location and amount paid.

-) **Post Season Play: Festivals/Playoffs/State Cup:** At the end of the season, U9- U11 Festivals are arranged for the teams to participate in end of the year mini tournaments. These tournaments as well are just for fun with no champions determined. There are festivals held separately for boys and girls at each age group, the locations of which are contained within the Soccer Maine Fall Handbook. Coaches will be required to provide player passes and rosters at the registration before the first game.

For Division 1 U12-U14 age groups, for playoff determination, the top 16 ranked teams in the Division 1 U13 & U14 brackets and the top 24 teams ranked in the Division 1 U12 brackets will compete for the Champions Cup. All other regular season Division 1 teams positioned below these respective rankings and Division 2 teams will compete for the Classic Cup. Regular season Division 1 teams will be seeded in the top portion of the Classic Cup seeding.

VIII. Playing Time:

U9-U11

-) Soccer Maine mandates playing time for U11 and below to be at least 50% of each game for all players. This is strictly adhered to and enforced by FYSA.

U12

-) Playing time at U12 is not mandated by Soccer Maine, but as FYSA continues to have balanced teams at U12, the FYSA philosophy is to strive for playing time to be at least 50% for all players during the season, and the strongly suggested guideline is a minimum of 10-15 minutes per half for each player.

U13-U14

- J) **Playing time at U13 and U14 is not mandated by Soccer Maine, but the FYSA philosophy is that all players should be playing in every single game, and the strongly suggested guideline is a minimum of 10-15 minutes per half for each player.**

IX. Falmouth Fall Classic:

The Falmouth Fall Classic (FFC) is a tournament hosted by FYSA each year on Columbus Day Weekend in October. All teams are automatically entered in the tournament that consists of “non-results oriented” games for U11 and below teams, and a more competitive format with winners declared at the U12 and above age group. Younger teams play 3 or 4 games over Saturday and Sunday, while the older teams can advance to semi-finals and finals on Monday.

The tournament is a significant revenue generator for the FYSA, and supplements the player registration fee that is not sufficient to cover the cost of running the club. Other benefits to the FFC is that families can stay in town that weekend verses traveling to out of town tournaments, it is a great community event and the players really look forward to it. Hosting a tournament this size is a huge undertaking and thus requires a great deal of volunteer work, mostly by those individuals who are generous enough to offer to be the head coordinator. This is a huge job, requiring many months of work. It is ideal to have one person in the head position with an assistant who can learn the tournament and ultimately take over as head coordinator the following year.

It is also imperative that all families contribute to the many volunteer needs of the tournament including souvenirs, referee coordination, field marshals, team bracketing, parking, set up and take down. Consequently, FYSA requires a minimum of 2 hours volunteer time per player.

X. Coaching Evaluations:

FYSA is very committed to providing our children with the most positive learning experience and strives to provide quality coaching to achieve this end. Our coaching on-line evaluation process is sent to all parents to be completed at the end of each season. It is not mandatory to provide one’s name, so that we may encourage the most candid responses.

It is the philosophy of the club that this evaluation process is an integral part of maintaining our high coaching standards. We feel that all feedback, positive and negative, is useful for coaches in evaluating their own performance and it is for this reason we place so much importance on the coaching evaluation process.

XI. Off Season Play:

-) **Winter Leagues:** FYSA does not sanction or support any teams outside of the Fall season, and therefore, coaches and players are basically free to do as they wish. However, it is not uncommon for coaches to be instrumental in putting together casual indoor league teams for indoor play during winter, and it is strongly recommended that this is done fairly so as not to create an exclusive and hand-picked atmosphere for teams, particularly when it involves teams composed solely of Falmouth players. For example, if there are 2 teams of U10 boys and one of the coaches is willing to coach an indoor team that only allows 12 players, it is recommended that the coach extends the offer to both teams of boys rather than just hand-pick 12 players. If enough players come forward to support 2 teams, then the most appropriate thing to do is divide them equally and hopefully solicit another coach for the second team. This type of arrangement will go a long way in promoting team unity and fairness among the entire age group.
-) **Spring Season/Pine Tree League:** the spring of 2006 was the first year of the so called “Pine Tree League” in which Soccer Maine attempted to offer a more organized format for teams wishing to compete in the spring. Similar to winter, FYSA does not support or sanction teams wishing to compete in the Pine Tree League. However, coaches are urged to put together teams if enough interest exists within their age group. Again, there are no set club guidelines, however handling team formation in the same manner as described above, in terms of offering the option to all players in the age group is the strongly suggested process to follow.

Coaches interested in putting together teams for the spring must advise the FYSA registrar as you still must be registered formally through the club. Information and deadlines on Pine Tree league can be found in the Spring Handbook published by Soccer Maine and posted on their website usually in early spring.

Attachment 1

Keys to a Fun Soccer Season:

1. Leave it to the coach: You have entrusted the care of your player to the FYSA coaches. They need to be free to do their job. It is essential during practices and games that parents allow coaches to be the primary source for skill development, training, critiquing, goal setting and guidance on the field.
2. Support the program: Join the fun and get involved. Your volunteer efforts are most appreciated and needed. Whether it is fund-raisers, Tournaments or car-pooling, every effort makes a difference. Talk with your child's coach for team needs such as refreshments during games.
3. Be the Best Fan: Your child needs your support and encouragement no matter what the final score is on the field. Be sure to remember yours words are powerful. Please cheer appropriately. Foster teamwork by being supportive of all team members.
4. Communication with coaches: Children should be encouraged to communicate directly with coaches in regard to questions or difficulties they might be having. This is another valuable skill they can learn. Parents are also encouraged to speak directly with coaches regarding any concerns or comments.
5. At Home: Speak with your child on occasion about their comfort level with the competitive aspect of the sport. Understand how they are feeling about their performance and what their level of enjoyment is. Any concerns, please contact your child's coach so that they may make necessary adjustments whenever possible.
6. Food/Fuel: Your child will need the proper food, drinks and rest in order to best prepare for games. Coaches will have suggestions concerning these matters.
7. Keep it in perspective: Your child will be best served if schoolwork remains the number one priority. Once registered for the Fall season, soccer is a commitment that each player should honor, but we encourage involvement in his or her other interests as well.
8. "Win" or "Win": Remind your child that every game is a "win" if they put forward their best effort. Your words of encouragement will help ease any frustration. Focus on their skill development and positive perspectives, not the score. Make sure your children know that you are not disappointed in them. Teach them to focus on improving their skills and attitudes. Don't compare the skills of your child with other members of the team.
9. Final Result: Soccer skills and self-esteem should increase with each session. But most importantly, if your child had a fun season then we all did our job well.
10. Family needs first: school needs second, extra-curricular activities third.

Thank you for participating in the Falmouth Youth Soccer Association.

Have a great season. Let's Play!

Attachment 2
Soccer Maine
Zero-Tolerance Policy
Effective January 1, 2004

Applicability:

Each coach is responsible for his/her actions, the actions of his/her players and bench personnel. Each coach, player, and spectator shall at all times support the referee and assistant referees. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority, and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for the players, spectators, coaches, and referees alike. No one is to address the referee in a negative manner during or after the game.

Coaches' communications with the referee and assistant referees:

Coaches and/or bench personnel may NOT address any member of the referee crew during play except for:

- J Responding to a referee initiated communication.
- J Making a request for substitutions.
- J Pointing out emergencies or safety issues, such as an injured player on the field.
- J To request clarification of any call provided the request is courteous and non-argumentative.
- J First infraction: Referee may stop the game and remind the coach or bench personnel of Soccer Maine's zero tolerance policy.
- J Second infraction: Caution. (No yellow card shall be shown to any coach or bench personnel). The referee may issue a final warning that a third infraction may result in an ejection.
- J Third infraction: Ejection. (No red card shall be shown to any coach or bench personnel). The referee may instruct the coach or bench personnel to leave the field. Thereafter, the ejected person must depart to a distance where he or she can no longer see or hear anything to do with the match. If the ejected person fails to leave the field, the referee may abandon the game.
- J Nothing in this rule may be construed to limit the referee's discretion as granted by FIFA Laws of the Game.

Spectator communications with the referee and assistant referees:

Negative or critical comments directed to any member of the referee crew will not be tolerated.

- J •First infraction: Referee may stop the game, request the assistance of both coaches, and remind the spectator of Soccer Maine's zero tolerance policy.
- J Second infraction: Referee may stop the game and issue a final warning that a third infraction may result in an ejection.
- J Third infraction: The referee may instruct the coaches to direct the spectator to leave the field. If the ejected person fails to leave the field, the referee may abandon the game.
- J Nothing in this rule may be construed to limit the referee's discretion as granted by FIFA Laws of the Game.

Notification:

Should a referee eject any player, coach, bench personnel or spectator, and/or abandon a game, he/she shall notify the Soccer Maine office by phone at 942-0950. If a game is abandoned prior to completion, the referee will make no determination as to the outcome of the match. A written report of the pertinent facts should be sent to the Soccer Maine office within 24 hours. The Soccer Maine office will refer the matter to its disciplinary committee for further action, if necessary, and/or to the appropriate competition committee for disposition of an abandoned game.