

## **SILENT SIDELINES**

The FYSA board is asking that all teams that have home games to participate in this program on the given state. We are also asking that you pass this REQUEST along to the team that will be visiting Falmouth to play against you. This isn't something that we can mandate the visiting team to participate in. However, we are requesting that they consider participating in the program with us. Please request that they at least pass the intent of the program along to their team parents so that everyone at the fields on Sunday will know what is being done and why we are doing it.

Please remember to pass this communication along to your parents as well.

This is also for the coaches. As a coach, I bring a huge bag of lollipops to the game and hand out to coaches & fans. It lightens the mood a bit and I make a joke of how many lollipops I go through during a game to keep quiet. Thanks.

Here is a reminder of how and why we are doing this:

A mother was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her teenage son. Suddenly the boy bursts into the kitchen. "Careful! Careful! Put in some more butter! Oh my goodness! You're cooking too many at once. TOO MANY! Turn them! TURN THEM NOW! We need more butter. Oh my! WHERE are we going to get MORE BUTTER? They're going to STICK! Careful!... CAREFUL! I said CAREFUL! You NEVER listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you crazy? Have you lost your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the salt. USE THE SALT! THE SALT!" The mother stared at him. "What's wrong with you? You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?" The son calmly replied, "I just wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm trying to play soccer."

### **Silent Sidelines Reminder**

The goals of Silent Sidelines Weekend are to:

1. Develop our players to make decisions on the field without sideline intervention.
2. Improve the players' communication on the field by reducing the outside noise level.
3. Support our youth referees by eliminating dissension from the sidelines.

We are requesting that all Spectators and Coaches remain SILENT on this weekend. For the sake of our kids, we are asking for one weekend where we stand back and just let the players play. We would like to provide each player at least one game of their season that is free of the distractions caused by spectators screaming and yelling at them.

The guidelines are simple. Spectators and Coaches are to be completely silent. Applause and other nonverbal communication is permitted and encouraged. We are not asking that you not cheer for your soccer player, we are only asking that you do it without using your voice.

**We are asking that each of you with home games on the given date pass this along to the opposing team. We would like full participation from all teams playing in Falmouth. In order for that to happen we are counting on you to fully communicate this with your players, your parents and the opposing team. When passing this to the visiting team please ask that they pass it along to their players and parents. Your cooperation with this is a very important part of the program's success. Even if your team is playing an away game, your team and parents can still participate, and you can also let the opposing team know.**

Here is a video on silent sidelines from the USYSA website

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY4qiR81dOs&list=PLCAE9B17E3CFFE714&index=13&feature=plpp\\_vid eo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY4qiR81dOs&list=PLCAE9B17E3CFFE714&index=13&feature=plpp_vid eo)

We have had a lot of great feedback concerning this program. Thanks for your help.