

WELCOME TO THE **Kids Zone**

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A PROUD SPONSOR
OF THE SMSA'S
KIDS ZONE PROGRAM



In recent months, the national media has focused on the negative, even violent, behaviour of players, coaches and parents involved in youth sports. In a proactive effort to counteract this trend of violence, the SMSA is initiating a program called the KIDS ZONE.

As part of the SMSA's education agenda, the KIDS ZONE is a dynamic program targeted to eliminate negative sideline behaviour. It is aimed toward producing a thoroughly positive impact on everyone involved in youth soccer. To execute this program, two basic elements are involved:

- 1) THE SIGN
A large sideline, which lists positive behaviour standards will be posted at the entrance of participating fields. Parents and spectators who will abide by these standards are welcome --- all others are not.

- 2) THE PLEDGE
We will request SMSA parents to sign a pledge that holds them to the KIDS ZONE standards,

In order to make this program work, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

ALERT!

**you are
entering
a**

**By entering this
kids zone,
you agree to
the following:**



- **Kids are #1**
- **Fun - not winning - is everything**
- **Fans only cheer, and only coaches coach**
- **No yelling in anger**
- **Respect all referees**
- **No swearing**
- **No smoking**
- **Leave no trash behind**
- **Set a proper example for children**

**If you can agree to the above, we welcome you.
IF NOT, WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE LEAVE NOW.**

SMSA - it's for the kids

T H E S M S A ' s
Kids Zone
P A R E N T P L E D G E

Please read, initial each item, sign at the end, and return to the appropriate SMSA volunteer.

- 1) I pledge to be on time or early when dropping off my child for a practice or game. I understand that it is embarrassing for my child to be late to a game or practice and that I am putting him/her at physical risk by not providing adequate time for warm-up. I understand the importance of picking up my child on time for all games and practices. This shows respect for the coach, who has other time commitments, and it tells my child that he/she is my top priority. _____
- 2) I understand that the top three reasons kids play sports are to have fun, make new friends and learn new skills. I understand that the game is for the kids, and that I will encourage my child to have fun and keep sport in its proper perspective. I understand that athletes do their best when they are emotionally healthy, so I will be positive and supportive. _____
- 3) I will redefine what it is to be a "Winner" in my conversations with my child. A Winner is someone who makes maximum effort, continues to learn and improve, and does not let mistakes, or fear of making mistakes, stop them. I understand that mistakes are inevitable part of any game and that people learn from their mistakes. I understand that all children are born with different abilities and that the true measure is not how my child compares to others but how he/she is doing in comparison to his/her self. _____
- 4) I will "Honour The Game". I understand the importance of setting a good example of sportsmanship to my child. No matter what others may do, I will show respect for all involved in the game including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans, and referees. I understand that officials, coaches, and players make mistakes. If the referee makes a "questionable" call, I will continue to respect the individual and be silent! _____
- 5) I understand that games can be exciting times for my child who is trying to deal with the fast-paced action of the game, respond to opponents, referees, teammates and listen to coaches. I will not add confusion by yelling out instructions. During the game, I will limit my comments to encouraging my child and other players for both teams. _____
- 6) I will not make negative comments about the game, coaches, referees or teammates in my child's presence. I understand that this plants a seed, which can negatively influence my child's motivation and overall experience. _____

I agree to honour the SMSA's Parent Pledge in my words and actions.

Parent's Signature

Print Child's Name