



## SHENANDOAH VALLEY UNITED RECREATION PARENTS SUPPORT CONSIDERATIONS

As the parent of a Shenandoah Valley United Recreation player, I should always be mindful of the following:

- Support your player is setting age appropriate and interest appropriate goals for their season.
- Be your player's/child's best fan and support them unconditionally.
- When you take your player/child home after a match or training session, be supportive and focus on the positive aspects of their game.
- Develop a responsibility in your player/child to pack their own uniforms, cleans their cleats and take a proper sports drink or water bottle to ALL training and games.
- Respect the facilities at both our and our opponent's grounds.
- Do not criticize your player's/child's coach, your child's teammates or other parents. If you are not happy with the coach you should raise the issue with the coach or club Director of Coaching.
- Encourage your player/child to speak with their coach. If your player/child is having difficulties in training or games, or can't attend training etc. encourage them to speak directly to the coaches. This "responsibility taking" is a big part of becoming a mature person. By handling off the field tasks, your player/child is claiming ownership of all aspects of the game while developing their life skills.
- Help your player/child to focus on the performance and not the result. Remember – winning is not as important as performance and the developmental process.
- Support all the players on your player's/child's squad. Do not criticize anyone: **remember – players don't intend to make mistakes.**
- Do not criticize opponents, their parents or the officials.
- Never audibly dispute a referee's decision. They will make mistakes occasionally. We all do. If you abuse or shout at the referee you are breaking the rules of the game and risk generating a fine or discipline action for your coach and/or our club.
- Parents must not coach from the sidelines during matches or training and should always be located in proper fan position on the field (never behind the goal). Leave this to the coach or you may cause confusion and erode your player's confidence.
- Parents must not enter the field of play.

Please remember – the game is for the players. It is not for the glory of the coach, manager or the parents.

Thank you for your support in helping SVU Recreation to promote its goal of creating a fun, socially interactive and developmental environment in which we strive to create a lasting impression of the great game of soccer.

Sincerely,  
Nora Maguire White  
SVU, Director of Coaching and player development