

Topics for coaches to consider:

1. We are a recreational league. We do not expect “win at all costs” mentalities. Please work closely with your parents to control emotions (yours and theirs). Encourage players. Do not berate refs or other coaches. RYS will have reps available to act as a sounding board at ALL games. Encourage your opponents.
2. If you hear a horn sound during games, it means that a storm is either in the area or imminently going to hit the area. Please retreat to your cars (DO NOT LEAVE). We will make every attempt to resume games. If you hear a follow up SINGLE horn blast, it means that games are to be resumed. If you hear three short blasts, the games have been canceled.
3. Encourage your parents to get on the text feature. They need to go to the site and sign up on the bottom of the “Volunteer to Coach” link. We’re going to get that re-named to better reflect the texting feature. It is simple to sign up.
4. Medical information is to remain confidential.
5. It is VITAL that you speak to each child’s family within the next 24-36 hours. No texts. No emails. Speak to a person over the phone. RYS will begin to get inundated with questions from families about why they haven’t heard from a coach.
6. Once you get your roster.....
 - a. Review the list of coaches and players on your team. If you were expecting somebody to be on the list and they’re not, let us know IMMEDIATELY.
 - b. Review the medical information on each of your players. If you don’t understand something, ask the parents/guardians.
 - c. If the family hasn’t included a doctor name or doctor phone number, let them know when you see them that you’ll need it for the emergency contact info.
7. What to talk to parents about when you call them for the first time:
 - a. Introduce yourself
 - b. Give them your phone number
 - c. Tell them what team the child is on (name and team #)
 - d. Let them know that the schedules will be posted on the site by the weekend
 - e. Ask them if they’re signed up for the texting feature (encourage them if they’re not)
 - f. Review the child’s shirt size and any medical information they may have listed – if the shirt size is incorrect on your form, tell RYS immediately! Text 437-8210 with a clear description of the problem. The child is going to get the shirt size listed on your roster. The shirt size listed on your roster is the shirt size they signed up for. If something is going to be changed, we need to know about it ASAP!!!!!!
 - g. Thank them for participating in RYS and let them know when your first practice will be held.
 - h. When planning your first practice, pick a location that is VERY clear and explain to them what you’ll be wearing – some of the families will have no idea who you are or what you look like – there will be many different teams down here practicing....
8. We will not play if Huntington County has declared a Heat Emergency or Warning. We will play in a Heat Advisory.

9. Huntington University is offering a two-day soccer clinic on August 16 and 18 from 6:30-8:00 pm. The clinic is being held at Huntington University and only costs \$10. RYS will pay \$5 of the entry fee if an RYS player chooses to participate. The clinic is open to kids K-8. We will not have games scheduled either of those nights. Encourage your families/teams to participate.
10. RYS has several VERY good documents available to help coaches and families on the site (rules and regulations page).

ROANOKE YOUTH SPORTS SOCCER RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following links are areas you can review with your player(s) on information pertaining to the rules and regulations of the game.

- > [Welcome to RYS- A Guide provided by Roanoke Youth Sports](#)
- > [RYS Code of Conduct](#)
- > [RYS Soccer Rules](#)
- > [Referee Training Emphasis](#)
- > [Referee Offside Examples](#)
- > [Frequently Asked Questions on RYS Soccer](#)
- > [Field Numbers and Seating Locations](#)
- > [Clarification to Overtime and Shoot-Out Procedures](#)

11. Our officials are trying their best. Keep that in mind. As the ages of the players get older, our (RYS) expectations of the officials are raised. Many of our officials are young adults (whose parents are very proud of them for taking on such a thankless job). Please do not lose your cool over a missed call. We need to act like the adults in the situation and talk it out. I encourage you to discuss the situation with RYS' roving liaison at the conclusion of your game. He will listen to all sides of the situation and work with the parties involved to make sure everybody understands the situation a little better (refs and coaches alike).
12. We will have extra soccer balls (and a hand pump) in the equipment shack near the southern end of the 11-14 field. If you encounter a deflated ball or you have one that needs to be pumped up slightly, head over there during game days.
13. We would like our equipment back at the end of the season. We spent some money this off-season on new equipment bags and practice cones. Please take good care of them.
14. Share the fields with the various teams for practices – we have 22 teams (270 kids) this year. We're growing. That's a testament to the coaches who are our main points of contact with the families.
15. Encourage your families to slow down as they drive through the park. Game days can get a little crazy with cars and little ones going everywhere.
16. Encourage your families to clean up after themselves. There are no "litter fairies" that magically clean up the park prior to the lawn mowing. Real live people have to pick up our garbage and throw it away. The park has made several garbage cans available for our use.

17. There will not be parking allowed down the gravel lane adjacent to the 11-14 field. Do not attempt to park down there.
18. Once you get your photo envelopes, wait until a few days prior to the photo shoot to distribute them. That will leave less time for people to lose them.
19. Kids love snack time (by the time they hit the 11-14 age level that kind of wears off though). Ask a parent on your team to organize that. No fruit snacks. No fruit snacks. Healthy snacks = good. Lots of liquids = good.
20. Coaches are not to cross midfield into the other team's coaching area. The 4-5 age level is the only one where it is allowable to have a coach standing behind the goal.
21. At the end of the season EVERY player will receive a trophy regardless of the outcome of the tournament (no tourney at 4-5 level). The two teams that participate in the championship games will also receive medals. Stick around after your last game for the awards.
22. Practices are up to each coach's discretion. We ask that you hold at least one practice per week – even during the season. The times and specific locations don't matter to us – whatever works for you as a coach. All practices must be held at the Roanoke Park (for liability/insurance reasons).
23. The fields have been lined and the goals will be in place as of August 7.
24. The schedules will be posted by this weekend (Aug 1). A text blast will be sent out to everybody in the league alerting them that they've been posted. There will be a handful of games on the 8th (Saturday). The rest of the game will be start on the 10th (Monday).
25. Photo night is anticipated to be Saturday, August 13. The photos will be taken **behind the concession stand**.
26. Shirts/socks will be distributed to coaches as soon as possible.
27. Watch for texts from the league! We will communicate with coaches in general via the texting feature.
28. Look at the layout map of the fields related to the positioning of the coach/teams and the parents. There should be no parents sitting on the teams' side of the fields. Parents from adjacent fields should sit next to the parents from adjacent fields.
29. Remember.....
 - a. These are kids playing soccer
 - b. The coaches are volunteers
 - c. The referees are human
 - d. We are not playing in the World Cup – free agent contracts and college scholarships are not on the line