

## **ABSC ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

**Albany-Berkeley Soccer Club ("ABSC")** is dedicated to providing a safe and positive environment for our youth athletes to play and enjoy soccer, and our youth soccer program provides a platform for young athletes to develop leadership and other life skills. Our Youth Referee Program is one way to provide them with the opportunities to develop discipline and leadership. It is of utmost importance that we mandate parents, family members and fans to be good spectators. **Please remember to focus on the kids' enjoyment, not yours. Verbal abuse, threatening and/or violent behavior of any kind will not be tolerated by anyone.**

### **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

**As a coach, team manager and/or a parent of an Albany-Berkeley Soccer Club player I agree:**

- Coaches, team managers and team parents are collectively responsible for the behavior of their team's spectators.
- All team officials and spectators are to set a good example of sportsmanship by being respectful to all game officials, coaches, players, and teammates.
- All team officials and spectators are to be courteous towards all game officials, coaches, parents, and players
- All spectators are to nurture the players with positive comments, and refrain from coaching their team.
- All team officials and spectators are not to use derogatory remarks or make gestures of profanity at any time.
- All team officials and spectators are not to have any physical or verbal confrontation with coaches, game officials, players, and parents before, during, and after games.
- All team officials and spectators are not to enter the field of play at any time without the permission of the referee. This includes a parent of an injured player.
- All spectators are to stay 2 yards outside the field line
- All spectators are not to stand behind the goals.
- No alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or dogs will be brought or used on the soccer grounds or parking lots.

**Should there be any concerns or issues with respect to parent or coaching behavior, it is expected that you will contact the Director of Coaching or any Albany Berkeley Soccer Club Staff to alert them of your concerns.**

**Violations of this Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary actions as defined in the ABSC Zero Tolerance Policy as below:**

All complaints regarding inappropriate behavior by any adults associated with an ABSC team (i.e. any team officials, parents, or other adults present on the team sideline), as well as all yellow or red cards issued to team officials, will be promptly investigated by an ABSC Disciplinary Committee. If, (1) any team official receives a yellow card or red card, or (2) the Committee determines that the adult behavior in question violates any policy of the ABSC, ACCYSL, District 4, GSSL, or NorCal Premier, ABSC will impose the following sanctions (in addition to any other sanctions imposed by D4, JLYSL or NorCal):

**First offense:** 1 to 2 game suspension, unless the Committee determines in its sole discretion that a verbal caution is sufficient.

**Second offense:** 2 to 4 game suspension.

**Third offense:** Suspension for at least the rest of the season; the Committee may extend this suspension to include some or all of the next season. The sanction will apply to the adult team representative responsible for the infraction (whether it be the head coach, assistant coach, or a parent).