



## BASIC SOCCER ETHICS

Following basic soccer ethics will go a long way in providing a pleasurable soccer playing experience and go a long way in preventing soccer injuries.

Here is a list of Dos and Don'ts:

Remember that the referee is human just like you and will make mistakes just like you will during the game. Treat them with respect and don't try to manipulate their calls one way or the other. Refrain from constantly badgering the referee to try to make them second guess themselves. Manipulating or trying to manipulate the referee is another form of cheating.

Passing negative or personal comments about the players from the opposing team can insinuate a verbal battle, which in turn can turn physical and violent. Hence, it is necessary that one refrains from passing any hurtful comments.

Often fights between team members ensue because a particular player does not pay attention to the spirit of the game. The game of soccer was based on the highest of sporting conduct.

At the end of the day, it is only a **game** we are playing.

Avoid cheating. Learn from your mistakes, which will help in improving your game, rather than cheating and winning the game in an unsporting manner.

As a sports player, each soccer player should have and display the spirit of good sportsmanship, which is the most important soccer etiquette. This should clearly be evident in case of a defeat. Defeat should be accepted with dignity. It is important that the opposing team is congratulated on their win. While accepting the congratulatory wishes, the winning team members should refrain from taunting the members of the opposing team and remember it is "just" a game. Remember no opponent no game.

Players should avoid getting into brawls on the field as well as off the field. Often it is small spats which become ugly. What happens on the soccer pitch is best left there. Once the game is over it is over.

It is the duty of each player to protect themselves and the other players to insure no one gets seriously injured.

In spite of taking all the required soccer safety precautions, accidents are bound to happen given the nature of the game. There for it is important to have first aid equipment available and insure that the player gets proper medical attention.