

PA West & KSC Player, Fan and Coach Conduct

PA West and the Kinzua Soccer Club are concerned about the conduct of players, fans and coaches. In past issues of "Touchline", the PA West newspaper, there have been articles in regards to this topic. It is important to realize that anytime anyone does not abide by the rules of the game that it hurts that individual, team, club, and the sport of soccer. It is difficult at times to not be critical of calls by the referee, or conduct by an opposing player, fan or coach. Everyone needs to be aware that there are appropriate ways of dealing with these situations. Complaining to a referee during a match about his/her call does no good. These individuals are no different than the rest of us. They will make mistakes and also learn from their mistakes. Being vocal about a referee will only drive these volunteers away, making it more difficult to get people to referee. PA West has a means of dealing with these situations through hearings and appeals. If a situation occurs that needs to be addressed, then the KSC board needs to be notified so that the appropriate actions can be taken. The KSC board officers are Dan Blair –President (726-9526), Kerry Colvin – Vice President (757-5778), Dru Schoenborn - Treasurer (726-0675), Marci Barker - Registrar (726-1820), Jeannie Pierson – Secretary (726-7879).

Player conduct at the older ages is becoming more and more of a problem. KSC now has a disciplinary policy that will be used this spring. The intent of this policy is to control this problem at the club level. PA West wants the clubs to take action to prevent this problem from getting out of hand. **The coaches reserve the right to substitute any player that has been carded and may bench the player for the remainder of the match.** Below is an excerpt from the PA West "Playing Rules and Procedures" about misconduct and the KSC Disciplinary Policy. Please read these over. Each player and a parent must sign the form at the bottom, acknowledging that they have read and understood the PA West rules on misconduct and the KSC Disciplinary Policy. **This form must be turned in prior to the start of practice.**

PA West Rule - Misconduct - Player / Coaches:

- To play without a valid player pass is grounds for protest and suspension for a minimum of one year for both player and coach.
- One **Red Card** (in a season) - One game suspension for the next played league game.
- Two **Red Cards** (in a season) - Three game suspension for the next three played league games.
- Three **Red Cards** (in a season) - Indefinite suspension. The player must appear before the PA West Disciplinary Board before he may be reinstated.
- A **Red Card** and its suspensions will be carried over from season to season. A season being Sept. 1 through Aug. 31.
- Any player or coach receiving **four cards** either red or yellow in one playing season shall require a hearing to determine if additional time will be required besides the minimum one game in conjunction with any additional game suspension. Note that this hearing is before the PA West Disciplinary Board.
- Any coach receiving **three red cards** in a season is automatically suspended one year.
- A player or coach who receives a **red card** for violent conduct shall be automatically suspended for two games, unless a hearing shall be held to determine if this punishment is warranted for the act committed or if a more serious punishment is needed. If a hearing is not held before the third game following the suspension, the player's/coach's card shall be returned and he/she shall be eligible to play unless or until it is determined otherwise by a hearing that season.

Kinzua Soccer Club - Disciplinary Policy

The following policy has been set by the Kinzua Soccer Club and is in addition to the rules and disciplinary policy of PA West.

- I. All KSC Disciplinary Committee decisions shall take into account the coach's comments from the "Player Yellow and Red Card Report Form" and the player's comments made during the Disciplinary Committee hearing.
- II. Comments made by other individuals at the Disciplinary Committee hearing may be taken into consideration.
- III. The decisions of the KSC Disciplinary Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- IV. Accumulation of cards by a single player in a season shall be subject to the following:
 1. A **red card for violent conduct** shall result in a Disciplinary Committee hearing.
 2. **Two red cards for any reason** shall result in a Disciplinary Committee hearing.
 3. **Three yellow cards** shall result in a Disciplinary Committee hearing and may result in a one half-game suspension.
 4. **One red card and two yellow cards** shall result in a Disciplinary Committee hearing and may result in an additional one game suspension.
 5. Additional sanctions may include:
 - a) Suspension from post-season play.
 - b) In the case of serious infractions, suspension from the next season or permanent expulsion from the Kinzua Soccer Club.

A Disciplinary Committee hearing for a whole team may be required as a result of a cumulative number of cards by individuals on the team.

Acknowledgement of reading and understanding PA West rules on misconduct and the KSC Disciplinary Policy

Return this form signed by the player and one parent prior to the start of practice.

Player name (print name and then sign next to it) _____

Parent name (print name and then sign next to it) _____