

HOMEWOOD SOCCER PROGRAM

EXPECTATIONS of BLUE TEAM PLAYERS

The Blue Teams are a proud part of the Homewood Soccer Program. To be selected to be a player on one of the Blue Teams is both an accomplishment and a beginning. You were offered a team position because you demonstrated a level of skill and desire that set you apart. You accepted the offer because you want to improve and develop your game so that you can advance to the next level. Homewood Soccer is committed to work hard to help you achieve your goals, but in return Homewood Soccer has high expectations as to what you will do to continue to merit the opportunity you have been given.

Accepting Personal Responsibility

1. You are the player, do what you need to do. Don't expect others to do every thing for you.
2. Do what you need to do so that your parents will be glad you are playing soccer, respect and obey your parents, study and make good grades, be a good citizen.

Personal Development and Improvement

1. Set individual goals for each season. Identify your weak areas and focus on improvement.
2. Practice away from practice. Set a goal of spending time touching a soccer ball at least 6 days a week, every week.
3. Study the game. Understand the role and learn how to play every position-it will make you a more valuable player. Watch and study high level games (college and professional) in person or on T.V.

Sportsmanship, Attitude, Team Role

1. Treat your opponents with respect. Play fair, exhibit good sportsmanship, do not talk trash. Talk with your skills not your mouth.
2. Treat game officials with respect. Never talk back to a referee. Do not blame referees with the way a game is going, it is your job to play the game not make calls.
3. Treat your teammates with respect. Support your team and your teammates. Be positive and encouraging. Never make negative comments about your teammates to them or about them.
4. Treat your coach with respect. The coach is there to help you reach your potential. He/she has been where you want to go; played at a level you would like to play. Learn from him/her.

Practice Attitude

1. Players are expected to practice hard. Practice is where you develop your skills, earn game playing time and prepare yourself for the next level.
2. Players will listen carefully to all instructions; do not talk while coaches are talking.
3. Challenge yourself while practicing. Try moves that you have seen others do. If you fail, try, try again.
4. Players will arrive early for practice and be fully geared up by practice start time.
5. Players will have a ball and wear shin guards. Players should wear appropriate soccer attire. Look like a soccer player
6. Players should use the time before the start of practice to practice juggling, short passing with a partner and other work on your touch.
7. Players will run/jog between all practice activities and when going on and returning from breaks.
8. A player's attitude will be a major factor in the coach's determination of playing time.

Practice and Game Attendance Rules and Consequences

1. Players are expected to attend every practice. Excused absences will be allowed only for the following reasons:
 - A. Illness or injury that prevents attendance.
 - B. Death in the family.
 - C. A conflicting, non-optional, school activity.
 - D. An excuse that is presented in writing, signed by the player and parent and which is approved by the team coach.
2. Players with an unexcused absence from practice will be required to perform the following actions:
 - A. Formally apologize for the absence to the entire team at the next practice.
 - B. Perform 30 minutes of soccer training separate from the team, at the direction of the coach, before rejoining the regular practice.
 - C. Lose 10 minutes of playing time during the next game.
3. Any players that exceed three (3) unexcused absences from practices, during the period beginning with the start of pre-season practice through the final game of the season, lose any right to a position on the team the following season. The player will be allowed to play on a Blue Team only at the discretion of the Director of Coaching.
4. Players are expected to attend all games, including tournament games. Excused absences will be allowed only for the following reasons:
 - A. Illness or injury that prevents attendance.
 - B. Death in the family.
 - C. A conflicting, non-optional, school activity.
 - D. An excuse that is presented in writing, signed by the player and parent. Requests to miss a game must be signed in advance by the team coach, Director of Coaching and Soccer Director.
5. Any player that misses a game which is not properly excused will lose any right to a position on the team the following season. The player will be allowed to play on a Blue Team only at the discretion of the Director of Coaching.
6. Players are expected to arrive prior to the scheduled practice time and have their gear on and be ready to begin practice at the scheduled time. A history of being tardy for practices will result in practice discipline.
7. Players are expected to arrive for games early enough to have their gear on and be ready to begin the pregame schedule at least 30 minutes before game time (earlier at the direction of the coach). Players will bring both the home and away uniforms to every game. Players that are tardy for games should expect to lose playing time.