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# RIVER CITY

FOOTBALL CLUB

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## **CRYSA Sideline Behavior Guidelines**

Positive sideline behavior plays a critical role in player development. These guidelines help ensure that games remain a learning environment that supports confidence, enjoyment, and long-term growth.

## **Why Sideline Behavior Matters**

Research and best practice show that excessive sideline instruction and criticism can reduce decision-making ability, confidence, and enjoyment. Players learn best when they feel supported, safe, and free to make mistakes.

## **What We Ask of Parents and Spectators**

- ❖ Cheer effort, teamwork, and positive play
- ❖ Applaud all players, not just your own child
- ❖ Respect referees, coaches, and opposing teams
- ❖ Allow coaches to coach and players to play
- ❖ Model calm, respectful behavior at all times

## What to Avoid on the Sideline

- ❖ Coaching instructions during play
- ❖ Criticizing mistakes or decisions
- ❖ Commenting on referees or opponents
- ❖ Discussing performance loudly during or immediately after games
- ❖ Comparing players or teams

## After the Game: The Car Ride Home

- ❖ Did you have fun?
- ❖ What did you enjoy most?
- ❖ What did you learn today?
- ❖ Avoid detailed analysis or criticism immediately after games.
- ❖ Let coaches handle performance feedback.

## Our Shared Commitment

By following these guidelines, families help create a positive environment that aligns with CRYSA values, Canada Soccer, and BC Soccer development principles. Together, we support every player's enjoyment and long-term success.