



Parent Expectations

Watching our children learn, compete and improve in the game of soccer is fun for all parents. Unfortunately, youth sports can also bring out the worst in adults. It is important that parents are involved and informed in their child's experiences in the club, but Flight also believes the role of a parent should be one of love, care and support.

As a result of this philosophy, below are the **11 points** that will guide the Ascension Flight parent culture. Should your actions directly conflict with any of these points both you and your player will be subject to suspension.

1. Let the Coaches, Coach

There should only be one person/voice that coaches. If you are telling your son or daughter or any other player to do something - you are coaching. Even worse is if you are telling your son or daughter to do something that is different from what their coach is telling them. This creates confusion and distraction.

2. Let the Players, Play

Soccer is a difficult game. It is made even more difficult when parents are yelling from the sidelines. Encourage them, cheer for them but do not go beyond this.

3. **DO NOT** discuss the lay of any players in front of other parents

"I don't know how she/he made the team." "She/he just isn't fast enough."
Negative comments are hurtful and unnecessary and kill parent harmony – something that is essential to a team's experience and success

4. Your children listen, believe and say the same things that you say to them



A negative parent attitude often results in a negative child's attitude.

5. Do not complain about your son or daughter's coaches to other parents

This is like a disease. If you have an issue, speak to your coach. If the issue is not important enough to speak to your coach about it, do not speak about it at all

6. Positive Comments from the Sideline

Make positive comments from the sidelines. You can often see a young player make an extra effort when they hear encouraging words.

7. Negative comments about the other team

We are all working with children. These young players aren't professionals. Speaking about the other team is tasteless, classless and these kinds of comments will not be tolerated by Flight.

8. Interaction with Parents from another team

These parents are not the enemy, and, in many cases, there can be some great conversations or discussions amongst parent groups. On the other hand, if these parents are not representing their team and their club in a positive way do not stoop to their level

9. Referees



Like your child who will make mistakes during a game so will a referee. These referees are learning and improving, and your feedback is not needed or welcome, regardless of how good or bad you think they are doing.

10. Outbursts

Outbursts towards the referee or the other team only signals to our children on the field that it is ok to blame referees and unfairness for anything that goes wrong. Blaming others is not a formula for success in sports or in life.

11. It was in the heat of the moment

We all feel things and are apt to be tempted to say things in the 'heat of the moment'. Our Flight players who do things in the 'heat of the moment' get yellow/red carded, get called for fouls, etc. so we should apply similar standards to our own sideline behavior.