

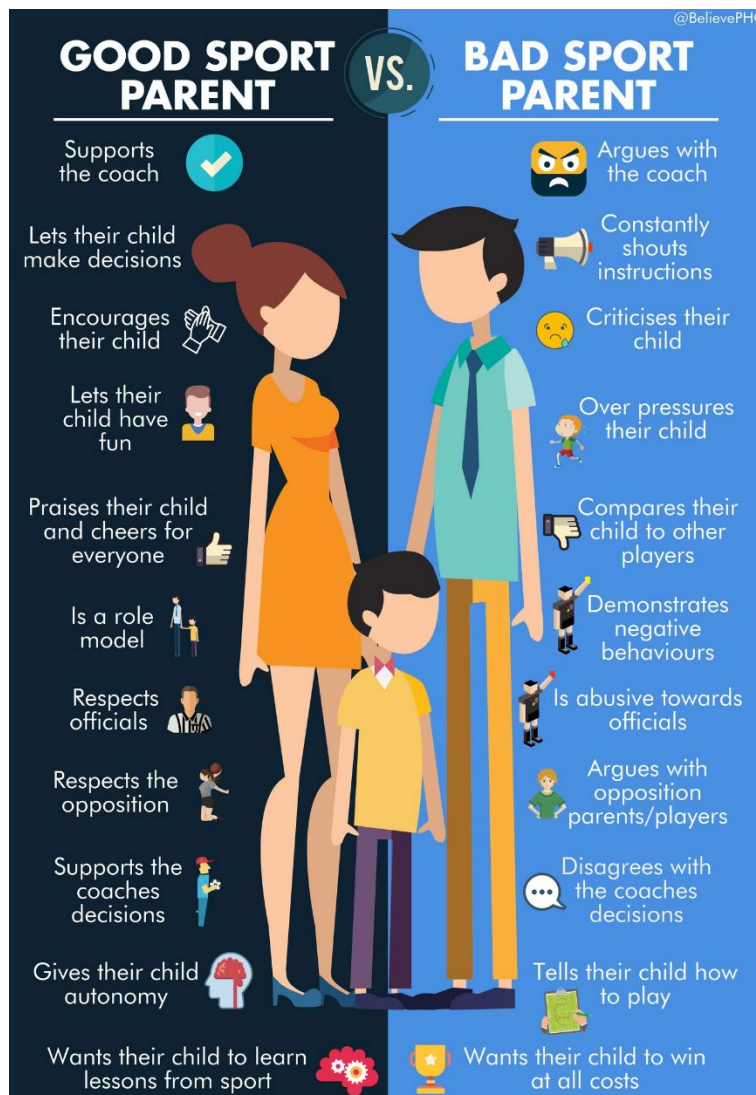


**BETTER ATHLETES  
BETTER PEOPLE**

Hello Newton Girls Soccer Families,

Thank you once again for being a part of our NGS family. We appreciate your support and encouragement.

We wanted to take this time to remind our parents to kindly review our 'Parent Policies and Expectations'. It is important for coaches, players and parents to act and represent our organization in a positive manner on and off the field. Be AWESOME this season and follow the traits of a GOOD SPORTS PARENT helping Newton Girls Soccer create a FUN and POSITIVE LEARNING Environment in which your daughter will grow to love the game!



When it comes to coaching please allow the coaches to coach and let them make adjustments as they see the need. Many times the instruction from a spectator is exactly the opposite of the instruction given by the coach. Allow the players the freedom to make their own decisions and learn from their mistakes. Spectator statements like "Stay Wide," "Clear It," "Pass the Ball," "Get Rid of It," "Move Up," "Move Back," and the infamous "Boot It!" tend to undermine the need for players to communicate with each other and undermine the coaches.



Parents should always be positioned on the opposite sideline of the players, not near the bench or behind either goal.

**Support the referee.** The referee is often the only neutral participant in the event. They are often young and inexperienced, but they provide a necessary service for the club and the league. Mistakes will be made and decisions we don't agree with will take place, but as parents (and coaches) we need to respect the referee's decisions and, as my college coach used to say, "Get on with it". NGS has a [Zero Tolerance Rule](#) that states:

1. No one, except the players, is to speak to the referee during or after the game. Exceptions: Coaches may ask questions before the game, call for substitutions and point out emergencies during the game, or respond to the referee if addressed.
2. Absolutely no disputing calls, during or after the game, no remarks to the referee to watch certain players or attend to rough play. NO YELLING at the referee, EVER, and no criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation, or feedback of any kind during or after the game.
3. Violators may be ejected and are subject to disciplinary action by the Sportsmanship Review Committee.
4. If coaches or spectators have questions regarding particular calls, rules, or a referee, or wish to give feedback regarding a referee, please contact the NGS Referee Coordinator listed on the Directory webpage.

Do not engage in game-related discussions with parents or players from the opposing team. We will be playing these teams for many years to come. We want to be known in the soccer community as an organization that has class and integrity whether we win, lose or tie. The score will not be remembered. The argument or inappropriate remarks will be.

Leave the game on the field. When the game is over, no amount of comment, question or discussion with the players, officials or coaches can change the outcome. Regardless of the outcome, the coaches will evaluate the performance, reinforce the good things and work to correct the things needing improvement.

Coaches are expected to give all players a fair, balanced and (as best possible) equal amount of playing time during games. We also feel it's VERY important that coaches give all players on their team exposure to different positions over the course of the season. This will allow players to develop a greater overall understanding of the game and improve their all round skillset.

Should any issues arise parents should encourage players to approach their coach during the week with any questions about their soccer experience. Please reserve the use of emails for exchanging information only. If there are any issues or concerns, we encourage players themselves to address them with the coach (in person, not via email or phone). If a parent insists on being present, coaches will be happy to discuss with them but the child should also be present. Please wait at least a period of 24 hours before addressing issues to avoid the potential of an emotional confrontation.

Keep the game fun. Winning is more fun than losing, but each player should enjoy playing because they love the game.

Finally our NGS [Parent Education webpage](#) and [Positive Coaching Alliance Tools for Parents](#) includes some great articles and videos full of helpful hints and tips in how we can create the best possible environment. We invite you to use the resources provided in this section and to learn how NGS encourages parents to be involved with their child's soccer development. Together, we can make your child's experience the best possible!

We are looking forward to a great year.

Sincerely,  
Newton Girls Soccer