

**SILVER HIGH SCHOOL
SOCCER PROGRAM
2019**



#233055632



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Introduction:

A strong, successful soccer program is vital to our school and community. One key ingredient to success is clear, consistent communication between the coach, players, and parents. This document will explain, in detail, the expectations of all involved. It will help you identify potential issues and at the same time answer questions about the decision-making process. As you have committed to be a member of this program, please take the time to carefully read the following pages. The signature page must be signed by both player and parent.

Player Evaluation and Selection:

Players will be assessed in four major areas. The terminology is used to categorize and describe the players abilities.

- 1) Mental Dimensions (character, discipline, and leadership)**
- 2) Physical Dimensions (endurance, strength, and speed)**
- 3) Technical Competence (skills)**
- 4) Tactical Awareness (runs, reading)**

If you have questions about the meaning of these terms, please ask. The coaching staff will base decisions on these four areas of evaluation and are responsible to develop the best players and best teams possible. Politics, friendships, personal relationships, and/or financial contributions will not enter into these decisions. This allows players the freedom to benefit from their hard work and dedication to the program and allows the coaching staff to work objectively.

Player Commitment:

The goal of the SHS soccer program is to develop competitive teams by having players that love the sport and are serious about improving and excelling in soccer. It is important to recognize that players, parents, and coaches will invest a significant amount of time and resources in the success of the SHS soccer program. We will create an environment that promotes members to play to the best of their ability. We expect players and parents to be ethical and honest. Everyone is expected to honor their commitment both verbal and written; therefore you should make your decisions thoughtfully and carefully. Once your commitment is made we expect your full participation and full support for the entire season. In kind, the SHS program and coaches will also be ethical, honest, and honor their commitment to you. Lack of commitment or violation of any rules with result in disciplinary action.

Player Responsibilities:

Attendance for practice and games after August 12, 2019 are MANDATORY. Before August 12, players are strongly encouraged to attend all practice sessions. Players should arrive at least 15 minutes before practice start times and 60 minutes before game start times. ALL players, boys and girls, are required to attend, watch, and support each other's games. The practice jersey is REQUIRED for all practices and scrimmages. The game jersey is REQUIRED for all games and tournaments. During practices and games all players are expected to follow the instructions of the coaching staff. Players not on the field during games are expected to sit, watch, and support their teammates from the bench. Players are expected to try their best within the rules of the game, aggressively compete, and be fair at all times. No tobacco and no alcohol of any type at anytime. Players are expected to condition on- and off-season. Failure to be in good physical condition will necessarily effect a player's ability to perform and will likely effect playing time during the season. Likewise, players are expected to work on soccer skills on a formal and informal basis. Players need touches on the ball as much as possible through-out the year in order to improve. Again practices are MANDATORY after August 12, 2019 and should only be missed on account of illness, religious obligation, or special circumstance. Players must notify the coaching staff in advance if you cannot attend practice. Players are expected to drink adequate fluids, wear shin guards, to have used the bathroom prior to practice, and should be ready to seriously train when practice starts.

Nutrition and rest are the responsibility of the player and parents. I expect players to eat nutritious, healthy foods and avoid foods that will interfere with your performance. We will work together to educate ourselves on foods that improve performance and promote health.

As a member of the SHS soccer program you are responsible for your performance and conduct. Honesty, good communication, and reliability are expected at all times. You must care for yourself, your teammates, your team, and the SHS soccer program. This requires you maintain a healthy lifestyle and a healthy team attitude. Any use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco is unacceptable and will result in dismissal from the SHS soccer program. In addition, I insist you maintain a positive attitude, personal sense of sportsmanship, and fair play.

Off The Field:

All members of the SHS program are expected to carry themselves with respect, proper manners, and integrity on and off the field. While attending games and tournaments, player behavior is expected to be exemplary on and off the field. As elite athletes, you are further expected to conduct yourselves with dignity on and off the field, at school, and at home. Disrespectful behavior toward any adult, teacher, parent, coach, teammate, or opposing player will not be tolerated. Poor behavior by one member is a bad reflection on teammates, the team, and the SHS soccer program.

Schoolwork:

Part of the commitment of being a member of the SHS soccer program is being able to handle all obligations that a student has in his/her daily life. It is expected that everyone will be prepared to perform at practices, scrimmages, and games. This requires that you do your best in school and budget your time in order to fulfill your obligations in that your primary role is being a student. Players who are not doing their best in the classroom and/or are not meeting their homework obligations are jeopardizing their position on the team. I will adhere to the SHS handbook rules for grade qualifications to participate in the SHS soccer program.

Communication:

This is essential to the success of the SHS soccer program. It is expected everyone has texting capability. This will be the primary mode of communication for the group. Otherwise, individual communication will be face to face, phone, or text. There will be times during the season when coaches make decisions and players will be instructed to do things they don't understand. During such times, players are encouraged to talk with coaches so they can gain a better understanding of why certain decisions are being made and what is expected of them. I have an open door policy and welcome questions and concerns. We may not ultimately agree on such matters but we will both have a better understanding of each other and what needs to be done to resolve such matters. Ultimately, if you feel that you are not being treated fairly, we will convene a coach/player/parent meeting to resolve the matter.

Parents:

Parental support and involvement are essential to success. Parents must make sure that players attend all team functions (practices, meetings, games, etc.). I understand there will be conflicts that cannot be avoided but the SHS soccer program requires your communication, planning, and understanding so we can minimize these conflicts. It is the responsibility of the program to distribute schedules in order to allow time for planning. I expect timely communication for the unavoidable conflict so the team can make the necessary adjustments.

Sideline Coaching:

There will no coaching by parents. "Go", "Shoot", "Pass", "Send It" are interpreted as instructions and as such are not desirable. No matter how good your intentions are; we insist there be no shouting instructions to your player or any player on the team. We also insist there be no yelling or complaining to referees or officials during or after games. Your vocal support and positive encouragement are welcome after good play. Please do not criticize or "moan" with disappointment when mistakes are made. The players are well aware of mistakes they make (especially bad ones), and we will teach our players that overcoming and learning from mistakes is an important part of life and this game.

Please respect all of the players on the team; please avoid making critical remarks about specific players. These comments can be overheard by the players or others and can be quite harmful and foster an unhealthy team environment.

Please respect the coaches and do not make negative remarks to others about coaching decisions. The first concern of the SHS soccer program is the long term growth and development of our student-athletes. We will improve your soccer abilities under pressure. There will be times when coaches make decisions and players are instructed to do things that parents do not understand. Program, team, and player development will sometimes be given a greater priority than winning. Parents must understand this fact and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with this philosophy in order to maintain a healthy team environment. A solid foundation which includes a quality soccer program, solid team, and healthy players, will allow the SHS soccer teams to be successful.

Parents, always at the appropriate time, should feel free to communicate and ask questions about your player. Also, take the initiative to encourage and teach your player to speak up and communicate for themselves whenever possible. The SHS program will teach and support the benefit of mental toughness to guide their intense focus on the game. We will instruct your player to ignore adverse conditions; such as bad referees, name calling, foul language, rough play, cheating, poor weather, negative behavior by adults or opponents. We expect our parents (as well as our coaches) to have the same mental toughness.

The Coach:

We will first be teachers, second as soccer trainers. Nothing positive will come of our efforts producing skilled players who do not know how to conduct themselves as successful young people. You can expect the coaches will be positive role models and display appropriate behavior at all times. Our coaches recognize the significant impact they have on player's lives. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team on and off the field whenever the team is together. We insist players are polite, well-behaved, and respectful. Players and parents can expect honesty, communication, consistency, and reliability from the coaches. We are committed to giving players the tools and skills to become even better as their ability, desire, commitment, and effort allow. We are committed to creating an environment that is conducive to the development of quality competitive soccer. We recognize there are things more important in life than soccer, such as family and success in school, but if we see you are not willing to put your soccer training and team above other recreational activities during the season then that will effect your playing time and position on the team. Do not expect your coaches to praise everything you do well. After a time there are things that will be expected from every player. There are times that very little will be said, times when instructions are yelled out, times when there is criticism, and times of generous praise. Players are expected to accept criticism and praise, knowing how to deal with both. It is important that players and parents understand that coaching in soccer is overrated. Once players and a team reach a level of skill, maturity, and experience then these become more important to the team's success than the coaches.

The coaches will make decisions on player selection, game line-up, player position, amount of playing time, etc. Players must be positive in fulfilling the role they are asked to perform for the team, even if that role has them not playing at all, coming off the bench, or playing a different position. If conflicts or issues arise between a player, parent(s), or team then I will be responsible for addressing and responding to the conflict. Decisions will be based on the SHS handbook, based on good ethics and morals, and for the good of all involved.

Playing Time:

There is no guaranteed amount of playing time and there are many factors that can effect the amount of playing time for a particular player. The policy of the SHS soccer program is that playing time is earned and not given. Starting positions and playing time are both earned by regularly attending practices, training hard, competing and concentrating on your success and your team's success.

Conclusion:

Welcome to the Silver High School Soccer Program 2019. We are going to have a great athletic program that represents Silver High School, Silver City, and Grant County. We are going to have a great season. I expect excitement, great attitude, and hard work from everyone. So in advance, I extend a huge 'THANK YOU' to everyone. GO COLTS!!

Please complete the next page. Players and parents must sign in order to be a member of the SHS Soccer Program.

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SIGNATURE PAGE

I have read this document and understand the contents. I agree to abide by all rules, expectations, and policies.

Date: ____/____/2018

Print Player Name _____

Signature of Player _____

Print Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Signature of Parent(s) _____