



# XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

181 Randolph Road | Middletown CT 06457

www.xavierhighschool.org | 860.346.7735

Xavier High School

Fall 2022 – Soccer Action Plan

**1. How will the coach employ captains to help minimize the receipt of penalty cards? How can the team members be empowered to enact any plan put forward? Can previous members of the team who have graduated be involved in a positive way?**

The coach will hold meetings with the captains during the preseason to set team expectations around cards. The captains will present to the team the importance of sportsmanship and proper play. Having played in a semi-final last year the captains will be able to talk about what that experience meant to them and the importance of being able to play in the state tournament.

**2. Will the coach employ any tactics prior to the start of the season? Meet with parents? Have an official attend and present at a meeting? Present plan to everyone including parents?**

During the preseason our coach will have an official come in and present to the team on what they are looking for and how to avoid getting yellow/red cards. After the official completes his presentation, the coach will distribute his action plan to all members of the soccer program and review consequences for receiving cards. At the preseason parent meeting our coach will again review the action plan with all parents.

**3. Will the coach establish a plan to immediately deal with athletes who receive a penalty card? Will there be consequences for the next contest at whatever level the offending athlete may play? Will there be a meeting with the coach and parents of the offending player after a penalty card is received to go over any coaching sanctions?**

At the coach's discretion, any player who receives a card may be removed from game for an extended portion of the game or from the remainder of the game. The coach will be responsible for meeting with the athletic director after every game to discuss cards received. When necessary, we will use game film and prior history to determine if a player should need additional consequences.


If a decision is made to attach additional consequences, a player and parent meeting will be held to discuss the consequences and how the determination was made.


**4. How will the athletic director be involved in the plan? The principal?**


As previously stated, the athletic director will meet with the coach after every game to review cards received. The athletic director, in consultation with the coach, will determine if additional consequences are necessary. Should an action rise to the level where serious consequences need to take place, the school will have our dean of students involved.

The athletic director will update the headmaster on cards received and action taken during their weekly meetings.

**5. Anything else?**

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January 16, 2022

School: Watertown High School – Boys Soccer  
Coach: Vitto Caliguiri  
AD: Paul Catuccio  
Principal: Dr. Janet Parlato

### Watertown HS Boys Soccer Card Action Plan

1. At the beginning of the season address the issue with all players and parents.
  - a. Clearly explain the situation and the consequences for the upcoming year for receiving either a yellow card or red card
  - b. Review with all returning players any cards they received in the previous year and how the card could have been avoided.
  - c. Prior to every game during the upcoming season, I will address the team and remind them of consequences.
2. During the preseason, I will spend time during practices reviewing cards that are frequently handed out for simple things such as restarts, equipment, kicking the ball away on restarts, and address slide tackling.
3. We will have an official come in and review rules and cards with the team.
4. Reiterate with the team each player's role on the field, captains will receive additional leadership training so that they can assist with monitoring player conduct on the field. As for the other field player's coaching staff will stress that if they seem to lose control on the field they will be removed immediately.
5. Card Penalties
  - a. Any player who coaches deem is losing control on the field will be removed from the game for 10 minutes
  - b. Any player who receives a yellow card during a game will be required to sit for the next 40 minutes of game play equivalent to a half. If a card is received at the end of a game, and the 40 minutes is not observed, they will not enter the game until the 40 minutes is served.
  - c. Any player who receives a red card will be suspended for the next 3 games in addition to the 1 game suspension from the CIAC so a total of 4 games. Players will also meet with the Coach and Athletic Director to review events leading to the card.
  - d. Any player who accumulates 2 yellow cards will be subject to the 40 minutes for the second card during the game received and additional will be suspended for the next game. Players will also meet with the Coach and Athletic Director to review events leading to the card.
  - e. Any player who receives a 3<sup>rd</sup> yellow card will not reenter the game the yellow card was received and will be suspended for 2 games in addition to the 1 game suspension from the CIAC for a total of 3 games. Players will also meet with the Coach and Athletic Director to review events leading to the card.

6. Players who receive cards will need to meet with the coaching staff to review the offense and how it could have been avoided. Players will also meet with the Coach and Athletic Director to review events leading to the card.
7. As coaches we will spend more time focusing on player emotions during the game and make sure we address all officials prior to the start of games and ask that they address anything they see in terms of player conduct so we can remove the player.

This will need to be something as coaches we stress with players on a daily basis and make sure we paint a clear picture of what and how a Watertown soccer player should act on and off the field. We will also require more responsibility from our captains and upperclassmen to act as coaches on the field. I will make sure all players and parents understand this and answer any questions they may have.



# NEW FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

54 Gillotti Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812 203-312-5800

**James D'Amico**  
*Principal*

**Michael Chapleau**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Scott Rohwedder**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Mark Ottusch**  
*Athletic Director*

January 18, 2022

CIAC Soccer Committee  
The CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference  
30 Realty Drive  
Cheshire, CT 06410

Dear Members of the CIAC Soccer Committee,

After consultation between the Athletic Director and our Boys Varsity Soccer Coach, we would like to present the action plan below to help ensure that New Fairfield reduces the number of penalty cards it receives not just next season, but in the years ahead. This plan was created with the input of returning players, as well as seniors who will not be returning to the program next year.

**1.** Our captains will lead by example for each and every player. All captain candidates complete an interview with the athletic director prior to receiving approval to be a captain. One of the interview questions with the candidates will be asking them to discuss how they will actively work to improve on-field behavior as it relates to both tactics, mannerisms, and interactions with officials. The coach will have a preseason meeting with the captains and set the expectations moving forward. The majority of our yellow cards were for dissent and the captains will know that these will not be tolerated. Fouls happen but speaking to the referees negatively and using foul language is unacceptable.

The entire team will be told what the expectations are as student-athletes by the captains. We believe that this will have a more meaningful impact if they hear it from the leaders who are on the field with them. Not only do they need to hold themselves accountable on the field, but they need to present themselves as respectable young men off the field as well. As student-athletes, they are often held to a higher standard and they will know how their behavior can not only negatively affect them, but can also negatively affect the high school that they are representing.

Coach Guardado has already reached out to all the members of the soccer team, including the seniors. He has asked them to provide a piece of advice for the younger players on how they can better themselves as student-athletes and avoid being penalized in games for their behavior. Coach Guardado will share this information with the returning players and ask them what they can do to improve for next season.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

New Fairfield High School strives to provide a safe educational environment in which students **respect** the right for all to become **engaged** learners and responsible citizens who **belong, excel** and **lead** within a diverse society and changing world.

2. The plan for next season is to have a pre-season meeting with the players and clearly define the expectations for soccer players at New Fairfield High School. He will utilize a player contract that all participants will have to sign and follow throughout the season. Rules and guidelines will include things such as speaking to officials with respect no matter what the situation is, maintaining a good standing with the school officials, refraining from using foul language, and more. This contract will incorporate the Rebel Values that we expect from our student-athletes both in school and when representing us during interscholastic competition.

During the parent meeting, Coach Guardado will let the parents know what the expectations will be for the players throughout the season and what penalties will result if an infraction occurs.

3. Depending on what the card is for a player will sit out for the rest of the game. Cards for dissent will result in a player being told to sit on the bench for the rest of the game. If a player is exhibiting unfavorable behavior the day after the card is issued, he will be left off the roster for the next game. We want the players to understand that the use of foul language against the officials will not be tolerated. Fouls happen and are not always avoidable, however yelling at the officials for a call you disagree with is always avoidable.

4. As stated previously, the Athletic Director will interview captain candidates and will only recommend student-athletes who are quality representatives of New Fairfield High School. If behaviors escalate to a point where they are defiant of the head coach, the athletic director will intervene. We do not see this happening, however, I will meet with the AD to discuss the next steps in a situation that needs to be escalated.

In our analysis, we found that 80% of the players that received cards were seniors. They had a frustrating high school soccer experience with Coach Guardado being their third soccer coach in four years and the frustration from the group was evident. The younger players in the program received no cards for dissent, so we do not foresee an issue in the coming seasons, and look at this as an opportunity for growth. Coach Guardado is proud to be a part of this program and he believes that we have a respectable group of young men that will set a good example for their teammates day in and day out. As the head coach, he needs to recognize when a game begins to become untenable and work to de-escalate any tension before it gets to a point where multiple cards have been issued. This is especially important at road games where Coach Guardado and the assistant coaches are the lone representatives of our high school.

We look forward to sharing this plan with the committee. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D'Amico". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being more prominent and the last name "D'Amico" following in a similar style.

James D'Amico  
Principal

# **Norwalk High School Boys Soccer Improvement Plan 2022**

CIAC Soccer Committee:

Norwalk High School Boys Soccer is concerned about the fact that we have been placed on probation for the 2022 soccer season. Principal Reginald Roberts, Athletic Director Doug Marchetti and I are fully committed to rectifying our current situation that occurred during the 2021 season when our team accumulated a total of 17 penalty cards.

We have developed the following policy to be implemented during the 2022 season to address players who receive a yellow card.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Yellow Card**

- Mandatory meeting between the player and head coach
- Parent notification

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Yellow Card**

- Mandatory meeting between player, head coach and athletic director
- Parent notification

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Yellow Card**

- Mandatory meeting between player, head coach, athletic director, principal and parent
- Additional game(s) suspension at the discretion of the head coach and athletic director

We will hold a preseason meeting with all of the players and parents to present our improvement plan and we will invite a soccer official to discuss the rules and the officials' stance on discipline, specifically pertaining to yellow and red cards. All parents and players will have to sign off stating that they have read and understand the reasons behind the implementation of this new policy. In addition, our Athletic Director will meet separately with all of the players to reiterate the importance of strictly adhering to our new policy and conveying the exemplary behavior and sportsmanship expected of an NHS athlete. Lastly, as the head coach, I will hold weekly meetings with the team captains to ensure that our improvement plan is successful. We are confident that our CIAC Sportsmanship Rating will show improvement in all areas, however, if there are areas of deficiency we will immediately address the issue.

In conclusion, we have always taken pride in our core values and beliefs that are firmly based on proper sportsmanship. Throughout the 2022 season we will strive, as we always do, to exhibit exemplary sportsmanship and behavior both on and off the field. Overall, we are confident that the implementation of this policy will drastically reduce the number of penalty cards we receive in 2022. Thank you for your input and allowing us this opportunity to improve the soccer program.

Chris Laughton  
NHS Boys Soccer Head Coach