

Dear SSA Boys' Soccer Program Participants,

I wanted to first take a minute to introduce myself. I'm Ed Ellsworth, and I've been a full-time soccer coach for 22 years. I currently hold a USSF B license as well as a NSCAA Premier Diploma. I played at Pine-Richland and collegiately at LaRoche College.

As representatives of this fine institution, our staff will expect all players to hold themselves to the highest standards. We will be a student first, an athlete second. As such, all players' academics will be monitored to make sure they are keeping up with their schoolwork. Our players will be expected to be respectful and successful in the classroom. On the field we will expect our players to treat opponents, referees, coaches, teammates, and fans with respect and dignity. We must never lose sight that our actions reflect positively or negatively on Shady Side Academy, its students, faculty, etc.

Players will always be expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the SSA Student Handbook and Guiding Principles. As we enter an evolving section and classification, we are excited at the new challenges: At SSA we strive for excellence, and I'm sure you will meet our team's high standards.

All players aspiring to participate on the varsity team will be expected to attend all school year practices, meetings and games unless otherwise excused by the staff or administration. Players must be at class on game day to participate in the match.

Prior to preseason, the team will engage in small group workouts 2-3 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Sr. School stadium. These small group workouts are NOT required or mandatory and have no reflection upon the season. Our first official preseason practice is Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m.-11:45 a.m., with potential conditioning until 12:30 p.m. It will take place at the lower Senior School grass field below the turf stadium. We look forward to a successful season of soccer, and I personally look forward to meeting each and every player.

Ed Ellsworth  
Head Varsity Boys Soccer Coach