

SSA 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 23 years, including the past 6 seasons at SSA. I currently hold a USSF B license. My playing career consisted of 4 years at Pine-Richland and collegiately at La Roche College. I'm also the Junior Academy director at Arsenal FC of Pittsburgh.

At SSA, we have a championship heritage. We captured the school's first two WPIAL championships in 2017 and 2018. Additionally, we have made 4 of the past 5 WPIAL Title games, never finishing lower than 3rd in the competition.

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 be expected to attend all 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.

Players will always be expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the SSA student handbook. At SSA we strive for excellence, and I'm sure you meet our team's high standards.

Preseason begins 8/16 at 9:30 am arrival 10-12 session. With the ongoing renovations to the lower field, we will pass along what field we will utilize on campus.

We look forward to a successful season of soccer, and I personally look forward to meeting each and every player. If you have any questions regarding preseason please feel free to send me a note at efellsworth@arsenalfc-pgh.com or call me at 724-561-8361.

With hard work and dedication to excellence, we will surely meet every challenge that comes our way.

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Ed Ellsworth
Junior Academy Director
Arsenal FC of Pittsburgh