**How to Follow Sideline Etiquette for Soccer Parents**While enthusiasm and cheering can be inspiring, and it is natural to get caught  
up in the emotion of the game, soccer parents should take care to follow proper  
sideline etiquette.  
  
**STEP 1:** Cheer, don't coach. Avoid yelling specific instructions and issuing  
commands. This can be extremely confusing for a child and possibly contrary to  
the coach's instructions.  
**STEP 2:**Avoid running up and down the sidelines shouting. If you want to follow  
the action, make sure that you don't distract the players or block the view of other  
spectators.  
**STEP 3:** Keep some comments to yourself. Do not speak out to the referee or  
linesmen. Unless they are complimentary, do not direct comments to members  
of the opposition.  
**STEP 4:** Stay away from the goals. In many youth leagues, standing behind the  
goal is prohibited.  
**STEP 5:** Stand, or sit, at least 3 to 5 yards back from the sidelines (touch lines).  
Again, this is a rule in many youth leagues.  
**STEP 6:** Demonstrate good sportsmanship by applauding exceptional moves  
by the opposition. ," is much better than "You can get that ball."  
  
**Tips & Warnings**\* Practice silence. Sometimes it is more relaxing for both parents and players,   
and     you will likely view the game differently as well.  
\* Ask your children if they like you to cheer. The answer may surprise you.  
\* Be positive, never negative. If a child loses the ball, for example, "Way to  
hustle!"