

Youth Sports Parent/Coaches Code of Conduct

Preamble

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: *trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship*. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

I therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or sporting event.
6. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.

13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

Coach Expectations

As the season begins we desire to lay out clear and reasonable expectations for those serving as coaches for our youth. While we understand this is a volunteer league, the success of this program is based on everyone participating, working together, and meeting a common goal or group of expectations.

1. Sportsmanship – Sportsmanship is the cornerstone of youth sports, upon which all coaching should be based. Lead by example with the utmost sportsmanship, regardless of the call, instance, or issue at hand. Influence children during games to also participate with good sportsmanship.
2. Fun – While having a competitive spirit is a baseball staple, it is imperative as coaches we integrate fun into the game and capitalize on the love of the game and the opportunity to help players learn and grow not only as baseball players but as teams.

3. Safety – Please utilize common sense and use safe practices during any and all practices/games. The game should always be played in control and safely.
4. Communication & Organization – Communicate with your team and parents timely. Organize and schedule your team and practices, and come with a plan to teach and have fun.
5. Coaching – Teach basic baseball principles, work towards advancing the knowledge set of each player to understand the game, and to coach your team to the best it can be.