

## **ELC Code of Conduct:**

This is a binding agreement which must be read and signed by every player, parent, and coach as a prerequisite to participating in the Edmonds Lacrosse Club ("ELC" or "Club"). All breaches of this agreement reported to the ELC Board will be investigated by the ELC Board. Reports of violations may be submitted in writing to the President or member of the ELC Board by players or parents.

## **OVERVIEW**

1. Good conduct begins with the examples set by parents and coaches. ELC players, coaches, and parents are to adhere to the Club's mission statement and conduct themselves in a manner that "Competes with Class" and "Honors the Game" at all times, demonstrating respect to opponents, coaches, officials, parents, spectators, and themselves in all that is said and done. ELC players, coaches, and parents are expected to demonstrate respectful, positive communication towards all before, during, and after practices and games.
2. The rules of lacrosse are to be taught and followed in both word and spirit by coaches and players. Coaches are expected to know and abide by WSLA and US Lacrosse policies, standards of conduct for coach/player safety, and positive coaching guidelines.
3. There is never an acceptable reason why this Code of Conduct may be breached. Even unacceptable behavior of any third party, whether it is a referee, player, coach, parent, or fan from another team, will not be considered an acceptable reason for a member of the Club to breach this agreement. This applies equally to ELC parents, coaches, and players.
4. It is not the intent of this agreement to relieve the coaching staff from conducting on-the-spot minor corrections of behavior. Breaches of the Code of Conduct are serious offenses.

## **BREACHES OF CONDUCT**

The following behaviors are prohibited and are each a breach of the ELC Code of Conduct:

- Any malicious actions by coaches, players, or parents including any intent to cause injury to anyone.
  - Any malicious, disparaging, derogatory, foul, profane, or otherwise inappropriate statements by coaches, players or parents to coaches, players, or parents from any team (including on Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, and any other form of social media).
  - Any player disrespectfully talking back to an official.
  - Complaints by parents to any Tournament directors or officials. (When complaints to officials are necessary, they will be made by the Club.)
  - Causing property damage to any hotel, restaurant, sporting facility, or any facility visited during the course of travel to and from Edmonds Lacrosse Club events.
  - Use or possession of any illegal substance during the ELC season or in conjunction with an ELC event.
  - Inappropriate conduct of any kind off of the field may also be taken into consideration in any disciplinary proceeding on a case by case basis.
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- The ELC Board and coaches strongly encourage input from parents and an optimal time for such input is usually prior to or following practices. Complaints to a coach by parents or players, such as about

playing time, may not be made on the field before, during, or after any game. Coaches are not perfect; however, they are doing what they believe is best for their team. Coaches may be contacted by parents or players with game-related concerns or complaints, but only off the field and at least 24 hours after the event. ELC Board members may be contacted by coaches, parents, or players via email at any time.

### **US LACROSSE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Edmonds Lacrosse Club adheres to the US Lacrosse Code of Conduct. The essential elements of this Code of Conduct are HONESTY and INTEGRITY. The following essential elements of the Code of Conduct must be followed:

- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game and must be taught at all levels and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games.
- Good sportsmanship, fair play, and the skills of the game should always be placed above winning.
- Safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as adults.
- Coaches should always demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to players, parents, officials and spectators alike. Players should be specifically encouraged and positively reinforced by coaches to demonstrate respect for teammates, opponents, officials and spectators.
- Players should always demonstrate positive behavior and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Coaches, players, parents and spectators are expected to demonstrate the utmost respect for officials and reinforce that respect to players/ teammates. Coaches are also expected to educate their players as to the important role of lacrosse officials and reinforce the ideal of respect for the official to players/teammates.
- Grievances or misunderstandings between coaches, officials or any other parties involved with the sport should be communicated through the proper channels and procedures, never on or about the field of play in view of spectators or participants.
- Coaches must be able to demonstrate a solid knowledge of the rules of lacrosse and should adhere to the rules in both the letter and the spirit of the game.
- Coaches should provide a basic knowledge of the rules to players within his/her program. Attempts to manipulate rules in an effort to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, is considered unacceptable conduct.
- Eligibility requirements, at all levels of the game, must be followed. Rules and requirements such as age, previous level of participation, team transfers, etc., have been established to encourage and maximize participation, fair play and to promote safety.

### **HOW TO SEEK CLARIFICATION OR REPORT A BREACH**

If you are concerned that a breach of the ELC and/or US Lacrosse Code of Conduct may have occurred but are uncertain what constitutes a breach or is, at a minimum, appropriate or acceptable behavior, please email any ELC Board member and you will receive a written clarification. To report an observed breach, email any ELC Board member with specific information about the breach, including a description of the breach, the names of all involved, and the names of any other witnesses. Written reports to the

ELC Board about breaches of this Code of Conduct will be appropriately investigated and conclusions will be communicated back to the originator within a reasonable period of time.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF A BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Should the ELC Board determine there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct, the sole remedies available to it will be as follows:

- The consequence of the first breach by any person shall be a 1 to 3 game suspension, as determined by the ELC Board in its sole discretion.
- The consequence of a second breach shall be a 2 to 3 game suspension and possible dismissal from the Edmonds Lacrosse Club with no refund of any fees paid.
- A player may, at the sole discretion of the ELC Board, be dismissed from the Club for a breach committed by her parent.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT**

I have read and understand the Edmonds Lacrosse Club Code of Conduct. I agree to follow this Code of Conduct and comply with any resulting discipline issued by the ELC Board. I will honor the game of lacrosse in all of my actions and demonstrate the mission and values of the Edmonds Lacrosse Club in our community.

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Player's Name (Please Print)

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Coach's Name (Please Print)

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Player's Signature

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Coach's Signature

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Date

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Date

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Parent's Name (Please Print)

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Parent's Name (Please Print)

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