

Dear Participant/Spectator/Leader:

The Division of Parks and Recreation strives to promote the ideals of teamwork, physical conditioning, sportsmanship and acceptable social behavior at all sports related events. It is imperative that participants, spectators and leaders ensure an environment which will provide these ideals.

It is your responsibility as a participant, spectator or leader to familiarize yourself with the Physical/Verbal Altercation Policy, which has been adopted by the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department. Every sport has its own rules regarding sportsmanship; the purpose of this policy is to define sportsmanship expectations of our department and to serve above and beyond the rules of the game.

If you have any questions about the Physical/Verbal Altercation Policy or would like additional free copies, please call the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department at 502-863-7865.

### **Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Physical/Verbal Altercation Policy**

The Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department strives to promote the ideals of teamwork, physical conditioning, sportsmanship and acceptable social behavior at all sports related events. It is imperative that participants, spectators and leaders ensure an environment which will provide these ideals. Therefore, any unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to, fighting, verbal abuse or racial and gender epithets involving fans, coaches, players will not be tolerated.

**1. Fighting** - A hostile encounter with another party or parties, resulting in a physical struggle or contact, will be defined as a “fight”. Fighting will not be tolerated on the part of any leader, participant, or fan/ spectator associated with a Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activity or sporting related event.

**A. Leaders**— It is the goal of the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department to provide an environment where our participants can grow, not only physically, but also mentally. It is the responsibility of our leaders to provide an example of self-control and integrity in the hope that others follow their example. A leader is an individual who holds any supervisory position, including but not limited to, program coaches, assistant coaches, program officials, and program supervisors. Any “leader” involved in a fight will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**First Offense**—Up to one year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sports-related events from the date of the incident.

**Second Offense**— Up to lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in a Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sports related events from the date of the incident.

**NOTE:** Sporting activities and sports-related events sponsored by the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department include: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Softball, Soccer, Tennis, Cheerleading, and Volleyball. (i.e. if one is suspended from

basketball, they are also suspended from any other sport such as football, baseball, softball, etc.)

**B. Participants:** A participant is an individual, other than a leader or a fan/spectator, who takes an active part in the sporting activity or sporting related event that the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sponsors. Any participant involved in a fight will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**First Offense- (Adults 18 & Over)** Up to one year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events.

**Second Offense—(Adults 18 & Over)** Up to three year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events.

**Third Offense—(Adults 18 & Over)** Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events.

**First Offense—(Youth: 17 & Under)** Up to one year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from all Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident.

**Second Offense—(Youth: 17 & Under)** Up to three year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from all Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events until the age of eighteen (18) or for one (1) year which ever is greater.

**Third Offense—(Youth: 17 & Under)** Suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from all Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department Sporting activities and sporting related events until the age of 18.

**C. Fans/ Spectators—**A fan/spectator is an individual who participates in a sporting activity or sporting related event by demonstrating support without taking a leadership or participant role in that particular event. Any spectator who is involved in a fight will be subject to the following measures:

**First Offense—** Up to one year suspension as a fan/spectator, participant, and leader from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident.

**Second Offense—**Up to three Year suspension as a fan/spectator , participant, and leader from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident.

**Third Offense—** Lifetime suspension as a fan/spectator, participant, and leader from all Georgetown—Scott Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident.

**2. Verbal Abuse—**The Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department strives to create an environment that teaches individuals the art of good sportsmanship. Verbal abuse is defined as the intentional act of insulting another individual through oral measure with the aim of offending. If any abusive language or behavior is directed at others, those confrontational parties will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**A. Leaders and/or participants (Adults: 18 & Over)**

**First Offense**— Up to one year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of the incident.

**Second Offense**— Up to three year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of the incident.

**Third Offense**— Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of the incident.

**B. Leaders and/or Participants (Youth: 17 & Under)**

**First Offense**—Immediate suspension as a participant from game and suspension from next scheduled game.

**Second Offense**—Up to one year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of the incident of the second offense.

as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Third Offense**—Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**3. Harrassing Fans/Spectators**-Harrassment is defined as, but not limited to, abusive language, tormenting of participants, and the baiting of individuals. The following set of actions will be implemented against harassing fans/spectators:

**First Offense** – Immediate ejection and two game suspension.

**Second Offense**- Up to one year suspesnison as a participant and/or fan/spectator from the date of the incident in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Third Offense**- Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and/or fan/spectator.

**4. Use of Racial and/or Gender Epithets**- The Georgetown – Scott County Parks and Recreation Department has zero-tolerance for any use of racial and /or gender epithets used in reference to an individual’s race, color, gender, or sexual orientation. Any person(s) found to have used such epithets will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**A. Leaders**

**First Offense**- Up to a lifetime suspension as a leader and/or participant from the Georgetown – Scott County Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events. Up to one year suspension as a fan/spectator in the Georgetown – Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident.

## **B. Participants**

**First Offense—(Adults: 18 & Over)** Up to one year suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Second Offense— (Adults: 18 & Over)** Up to three year suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Third Offense—(Adults: 18 & Over)** Lifetime suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**First Offense (Youth: 17 & Under)** Two game suspension.

**Second Offense (Youth: 17 & Under)** Up to one year suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Third Offense (Youth: 17 & Under)** Suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department sporting activities and related sporting events until the age of eighteen (18) or for one year whichever is greater.

**5. Unsportsmanlike Conduct—**Sportsmanship is defined as conduct becoming to a sportsman, such as fairness, courteous relations and acceptance of results. The Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department is promoting these ideals in its sporting activities, programs, and sports related events. The items listed in the above sections constitute conduct, justifying the noted penalty and representing unsportsmanlike conduct. Should any unsportsmanlike conduct occur, not specifically addressed in the previous sections, the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department, in its discretion, may institute penalties for such behavior consistent with this policy. In determining whether an incident or unsportsmanlike conduct has occurred, the rules of that particular sport may be considered.

**6. Procedures Following Incident—**When a person engages in unsportsmanlike behavior the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department's sporting activities and related sports events, recreation supervisors, recreation leaders, league supervisors, and/or league officials will have the individuals involved in the dispute escorted from the park or facility at which the event is occurring. During such time, the sporting event or program will be stopped until those involved have left the park or facility property. If a person(s) refuses to leave the premises, the Georgetown—Scott County Police Department will be contacted and asked to enforce the ruling of the officials.

Individuals removed from the park or facility will be sent a notification letter stating their violation of the altercation policy. The individual will then have seven days from the receipt date of the registered mailed letter to respond with a written statement, explaining or defending their involvement and setting out their perception of the altercation as it occurred. The response must be received

by the office of the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department's Director (140 Pavilion Dr, Georgetown, KY 40324) on or before the seventh day from the receipt date of the registered mailed letter. NO written statement will be considered in the investigation after the seven days. After the statements are received, an investigation will be conducted and the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department will render a judgment of the altercation within ten working days from the statement deadline. A panel consisting of the department director/director's designee, program superintendent and the program supervisor of that particular program in which the altercation occurred, will conduct the investigation. During the investigation, the individual(s) accused will be suspended from all sporting activities and/or sports related events. Those found in violation of this policy, or who are not content with the panel's decision, may file an appeal to the office of the director of the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department, as noted above. In filing an appeal, an individual(s) will have five business days to respond in writing from notification of the decision, and said appeal shall be received in the director's office, on or before, the fifth day after notification of the decision. Individuals may be asked to appear before the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Board. All appeal decisions are final and are not subject to review.

If the Georgetown—Scott County Parks and Recreation Department deems a physical or verbal altercation as a flagrant and deliberate act of violence, the department reserves the right to enforce a more severe punishment within this established disciplinary code.