

Parent & Player Code of Conduct

As a member of the YMCA Youth Sports Program, I am part of an organization that believes teamwork, integrity, respect and good sportsmanship are more important than winning. By signing this Code of Conduct, I agree to follow the rules for behavior and sportsmanship while I am a member of the YMCA Youth Sports Program. The following behavior guidelines state the principles the YMCA Youth Sports Program expects all members to demonstrate and uphold.

YMCA Youth Sports Programs are fortunate to have experienced, volunteer coaches working to develop our children into better athletes, and more importantly, teaching and instilling important life skills. These skills include time-management, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. Your child will reap the benefits of their instruction long after his/her participation with the YMCA Youth Sports Program ends.

As parents, it is essential that we give our coaching staff the respect and authority they deserve to run our team. Our coaches volunteer for that purpose and the Sports Coordinator oversees the direction of the volunteers.

PART I – PARENTS CODE of CONDUCT

- Always set the right example for our children by showing respect and common courtesies to the team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents, and for all facilities and other property used during practice or competition.
- Respect the integrity of officials by assuming decisions are based on honest, objective evaluations of performance. Only coaches may approach meet officials for clarification of rulings.
- Understand that opposing teams, including their players, coaches, and fans, want the same positive experiences for their players as we do. Help the YMCA Youth Sports Program achieve our goals by avoiding criticism either verbally or by gesture.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship during all practices, competitions and team activities. Promote good sportsmanship by setting an example and by helping others to do likewise. YMCA Youth Sports teams win gracefully, lose graciously and congratulate their opponents either way.

- Be an active participant in all fundraising events and other team activities and encourage and support your child by permitting them to be timely for practices and competitions.
- Realize that players become easily confused when coached by parents and benefit most from positive reinforcement of the professional coaching staff's instructions and advice. Your unconditional love and support before and after games will help them best.
- Recognize that YMCA Youth Sports Program coaches are volunteers with experience in the respective sport. Please allow them to coach your child without interference during workouts and meets, including not being present on court or fields during practice or competitions unless you are volunteering at the meet.
- If you have concerns, you will address it with the appropriate coach in private.
- Maintain open and honest communication among all members of the YMCA Youth Sports Program. We reach our common goals by working together.
- Insist that your child refrain from using alcohol, tobacco, drugs, other prohibited substances, violence, abusive or foul language, inappropriate sexual conduct, or any other behavior deemed dishonest, discourteous, offensive or disrespectful of others.

PART II – PARENT – BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Practice teamwork with all parents, players, and coaches by supporting the values of Discipline, Loyalty, Commitment, and Hard Work.
- Assist the coaches in conducting effective practices by ensuring players arrive and leave on time, and bring the proper equipment.
- Arrive at games in time for volunteering or warm-ups.
- Represent YMCA Youth Sports Programs with excellence, respect, team spirit, good sportsmanship, and politeness
- Maintain self-control at all times. Refrain from inappropriate behavior that detracts from a positive image of the team or is detrimental to our performance objectives.
- Know your role. Players – Play / Coaches – Coach / Officials – Officiate / Parents – Parent
- Call or meet with coaches during normal business hours or before or after practice/meets to discuss issues.
- Do not coach your child at practice or during games, that is the coach's job.

- Assist the coaches by not talking with or motioning to players during practices unless clearing it with a coach first.
- Do not interrupt or confront the coaching staff on the court or field during practice or meets.
- Trust and support your player's and coach's decisions around goal-setting and training commitments. Do not impose your ambitions on your child.
- Any questions about disqualifications, judging, etc. should be directed to your player's coach.
- Get involved....be an official, work on the board, help plan a fundraiser, help plan a group social.

Find something you enjoy!

- Share the burden among parents by volunteering to help at games.
- Pay your fees on time.
- Know and uphold YMCA Youth Sports Program rules, regulations, management and coach directives, and by-laws that are designed to maximize the experience for all players and parents.

PART III – PLAYER CODE of CONDUCT

The undersigned athlete participating with/for the YMCA Youth Sports Program agrees to abide by the guidelines outlined below in addition to those established by the staff.

- Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.
- Make every team practice, meet participation and activity an opportunity to learn.
- Players are expected to remember that at practice, during games, team activities and in public they are representing YMCA Youth Sports Programs. They should represent with excellence, respect, team spirit, good sportsmanship, and politeness.
- Players are always expected to follow the directions of their coach, respect any instructions by officials and any person who is a chaperone. Disrespect or failure to obey instructions will not be tolerated from any athlete.
- Players are expected to show respect, common courtesies and good sportsmanship at all times to the team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents and for all facilities and other property used during practices, competitions and team activities.
- Players should be punctual and arrive on time for all practices and games and team events.
- Players are required to attend all team meetings, practice sessions and games, unless excused by or have made special arrangements with their coach.
- Players must notify the coach in advance if they are planning to leave practice or games early.

- Players will come to all team sponsored events in the appropriate attire.
- Players should be an active participant in all team practices, competitions, fundraising events and other team activities.
- Focus on every drill and every set. Be committed to putting forth your best effort every day.
- Disruption of practice by an athlete will be grounds for removal. Continual cheating in a practice will be considered a disruption of practice.
- The coaches are there to help the players. Players are expected to pay attention and follow all the coach's instructions completely and exactly. If any clarification is needed, they are to ask questions politely.
- Players are expected to use appropriate language. Use of profane or abusive language or obscene gestures will not be tolerated.
- Dishonestly, theft, and/or vandalism will not be tolerated.
- Indiscreet or destructive behavior will not be tolerated
- Every effort should be made to avoid guilt by association with such activities as those listed above.
- There shall be no drinking of alcohol or use of tobacco products or illegal drugs or any substances banned by the YMCA
- Players are expected to respect each other. Fighting, intentional touching or striking another athlete will subject the player to the most severe discipline.

Players are expected to follow the spirit of the rules as well as the specific rules. The coach must adapt this philosophy to an infinite number of situations. Players are asked to respect the coach's directions and give their full cooperation. Cooperation with teammates and staff will produce a productive practice environment and competitive environment for all.

PART IV – VIOLATION OF THE CODE – PLAYERS

I agree that if I violate any of these rules, I will be subject to disciplinary action determined by the coaches, which may include expulsion from the team.

By placing your name below, you agree that you have reviewed the Code of Conduct with the registered athlete and the athlete understands the Code of Conduct and that you (the parent/guardian) and the athlete agree to abide by this Code and accept the penalties for not abiding by these.

PARENTS NAME _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

ATHLETES NAME _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____