



Code of Conduct

PARENTS' CODE OF ETHICS

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 hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports.

- I will not force my child to participate in Youth Basketball.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the sport is for youth, not adults.
- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- I will learn the rules of Youth Basketball and the policies of City of Deer Park.
- I 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 practice, tournament, or other event.
- I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, athlete, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
- I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
- I will teach my child to obey the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will teach my child to treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, gender, or ability.
- 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 match or his/her performance.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize competition in the lower age groups.
- 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.



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- I will respect the officials and their authority during competition and will not confront coaches during a game or practice.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at events.
- I understand that failure on my part to obey these rules could result in my removal from the premises, a possible game forfeiture, or law enforcement being called out if necessary.



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COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS

The following Code of Ethics has been developed in compliance with standards as set forth by the Deer Park Parks and Recreation Department and the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA).

Our coaches are the “face” of the program to our parents, officials, our schools and our community at large. Thus, each coach is expected to maintain a high level of integrity and professionalism both on and off the field. A coach’s primary responsibility is to develop good citizens and athletes, and to instill a passion for the game in our players. Thus, our coach’s performance is not measured by wins and losses, rather in what they teach the players in terms of technique, sportsmanship and fair play.

- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual; remember the large range of emotional and physical development for these age groups.
- I will be responsible in my demands on the player’s time, energy and enthusiasm. I will remember that they have other interests. I will always remember that my players are children, not professional athletes.
- I will always exhibit proper and ethical behavior while interacting with players, coaches, officials, leagues, staff and parents at all games. I understand that the use of foul or abusive language is strictly prohibited.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will treat each player, opposing coach, official, staff and parent with respect and dignity.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach and that the game is for children and not adults.

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and accept the terms of this code and will do my best to fulfill the terms of this document. I understand that not upholding the terms of this code and agreement can result in removal from my coaching position.



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PLAYERS EXPECTATIONS

- Show respect for all players, parents, coaches, officials, staff and spectators.
- Be a team player and help others to enjoy the Deer Park Parks and Recreation sports experience.
- Make an effort to attend all practices and games. Communicate to coaches when you are unable to attend.
- Help maintain a safe environment for play by learning and adhering to the rules and policies of Deer Park Parks and Recreation.
- Have a positive attitude at all times and recognize that recreational sports are focused on the fun of the game and not winning and losing.
- Be the best citizen that you can be for the good of yourself and the community.
- Have fun!