



Park Ridge Athletics Association Coaches and Parents 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.

As Parents and Coaches, I therefore agree:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
3. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the organization.
4. 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 other sporting event.
5. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of un-sportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing, chanting and/or taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
6. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to argumentativeness, hostility or violence.
7. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or athletic ability.
8. 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.
9. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
10. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
11. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in all age groups.
12. 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.
13. I will respect the right of the parents to disagree with the coaches and will never confront a dissenting parent outside of an official forum arranged for the purpose of resolving the dispute or issue.

14. 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.
15. 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.

Additionally, as a Coach, I therefore agree I will:

1. Always display the best qualities of good sportsmanship.
2. Be patient with opposing coaches, officials, and players.
3. Be supportive of all participants and stress fair play.
4. Motivate in positive terms, and use sound and acceptable teaching practices.
5. Contribute to providing a safe environment, both physically and emotionally.
6. Supervise all children in my care closely.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization
- Written warning by the Board of Trustees
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the Board of Trustees
- Game forfeit through the official or coach
- Suspension for part or all of a season by the Board of Trustees