

Parent/Guardian of Athlete's Code of Ethics

As a parent/guardian, I understand that this is my responsibility to:

- ❑ **Remember this is a game for fun** – be encouraging and thoughtful with your words and actions, do not taunt or disturb other fans, or embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials.
- ❑ **Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials** – these are people here to help, otherwise we wouldn't be able to have games. They won't get it right every time – but nobody is perfect. Please remember that most tournaments and games have parameters supporting and protecting referees – any troubling actions or words from parents can get the adult, or even the team, kicked out of the event.
- ❑ **Your child is here to learn about basketball and teamwork – not to earn a scholarship to play college basketball.** “Wins” in youth basketball are based on the child's development and improvement, teamwork and sportsmanship, and creating a lifelong enjoyment of the sport. Placing an emphasis on wins over losses makes no sense at this age. Highlight the “victories” in the games that will make your child an amazing adult, like helping up a fallen teammate, or working hard and hustling.
- ❑ **Refrain from the use of profanity, vulgarity, or making culturally biased or stereotypical comments, and other offensive language and gestures.** This is pretty easy to understand – just don't do it! Even if you heard your role models use negative words when you were growing up, be the better adult for your kid now.
- ❑ **Understand the rules of the game.** Even if you played “back in the day” – some rules have changed. And an elementary tournament on a Saturday in Minnesota is NOT like a college or pro game. Ask questions of the coach or other parents if you're unsure. And be open to learning.
- ❑ **Maintain a high level of safety awareness for your child** – This is a tricky one for us parents, because we want to teach our kids to handle physical adversity, but pressuring your kid to continue to play despite possible injury isn't wise. Basketball is a long season – repeatedly ask your kid how they're feeling, if anything hurts, and make sure your coach knows if your child isn't feeling well.
- ❑ **Play the role of parent, not of a fanatic.** – While it's easy to get sucked into the excitement of a game, be sure you are prepared to teach your child how to deal with success and failure, both, with high character and dignity. Don't let emotions get the best of you. And if you're upset with something, give yourself some time to cool off, think things through, and then contact your coach or the NUBBA board.

I have read these rules, and pledge to follow all to the best of my abilities. I understand that failure to follow the code of conduct can result in consequences from coaches and the NUBBA board, including up to being banned or suspended from attending practices and games.

(Name)

(Date)