

Marlton Recreation Council Standard Operating Procedure	
Section: Safety	Number: 103.03
Subject: Code of Conduct	
Effective Date: 03/07/2024	Page: 1 of 4
Last Revised:	Supersedes or replaces: Previous COC and all sport COCs
Issued by: MRC Executive Board	
Approved by: MRC Executive Board	
<p>The Written Policies developed by the Marlton Recreation Council are intended to provide a system for the orderly operation of youth sports, and do not enlarge any MRC member's civil or criminal liability in any way. They should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of Written Policies can only be the basis of an internal complaint against any member of the MRC, and then only in conjunction with disciplinary action.</p>	



Purpose:

- A. The Code of Conduct was established to create a safe sporting environment for players, coaches, and fans, while also establishing a baseline for discipline for violations of the Code of Conduct.

Scope:

- A. This procedure outlines the organization's rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior and applies to all MRC sports and/or events.

Administration:

- A. All volunteer commissioners, coaches, athletes, parents, spectators, game officials or anyone working at or attending an MRC sporting event shall be aware of this procedure and report all infractions to their respective coach, commissioner, or Executive Board member.
- B. This Code of Conduct will cover all sports in the MRC and will supersede and replace any existing, sport-specific codes of conduct.
- C. All penalties listed below are *minimum* penalties and are subject to review by the Executive Board. Penalties may be increased at the discretion of the Executive Board. If a commissioner or sports board believes that longer suspensions are warranted, the commissioner or sport board shall inform the Executive which may impose additional penalties to protect the health, safety and welfare of its youth athletes, game officials, board members, volunteers and spectators.
- D. Repeat violations of this Code of Conduct may result in additional suspensions, an increase in the total length of suspension, or a suspension from all MRC activities, regardless of if the suspensions are incurred in different sports, but such penalties only may be imposed by the MRC Executive Board.
- E. Certain sports are affiliated with State and/or National organizations. In the event that the affiliate organization has its own code of conduct with similar provisions to this Code of Conduct, the penalty assessed shall be the greater penalty assessed by this Code of Conduct or the code of conduct of the affiliate organization. Additionally, if the affiliate organization has a penalty for an offense which is not covered by this Code of Conduct, the Sport shall impose the affiliate organization's penalty for that violation.

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- F. An individual must serve the suspension for the team they were playing for when the suspension was issued before they are allowed to play any other level of that sport (i.e., if an individual is suspended for a violation while playing for a recreation team, that athlete cannot play travel in the same sport until the individual has served the suspension in recreation). The exception to this is that, if the suspension lasts past the end of the season, that individual may serve the balance of the suspension in the next season (recreation or travel), whichever happens first.

Violations and Penalties:

Violations Against Athletes

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Suspension - Minor</u>	<u>Suspension – Adult</u>
Purposeful striking of an athlete by another athlete	2 Games	N/A
Verbal abuse or taunting of an athlete	1 Game	3 Games
Throwing an object at an athlete	2 Games	4 Games
Making any obscene gesture towards an athlete	1 Game	3 Games
Use of profane language towards an athlete	1 Game	3 Games
Spitting at an athlete	2 Games	4 Games
Physical fighting with an athlete	5 Games	5 Seasons
Verbal threat of bodily harm against an athlete	5 Games	1 Season
Purposeful striking an athlete by a coach or game official	2 Seasons	5 Seasons
Purposeful striking of an athlete by a spectator or any other individual not otherwise mentioned in this section	2 Seasons	2 Seasons
Intent to injure during the course of a game	3 Games	4 Seasons

Violations Against a Coach or Other Volunteer

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Suspension - Minor</u>	<u>Suspension – Adult</u>
Purposeful striking of a coach	1 Season	2 Seasons
Verbal abuse or taunting of a coach	2 Games	3 Games
Throwing an object at a coach	3 Games	4 Games
Making an obscene gesture towards a coach	2 Games	3 Games
Use of profane language towards a coach	2 Games	3 Games
Verbal threat of bodily harm against a coach	5 Games	1 Season
Any assault against a coach	2 Seasons	5 Seasons
Spitting at or on a coach	2 Games	4 Games
Fighting with a coach	1 Season	5 Seasons

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Violations Against a Game Official

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Suspension - Minor</u>	<u>Suspension – Adult</u>
Purposeful striking of a game official	4 Games	1 Season
Verbal abuse or taunting of a game official	2 Games	4 Games
Throwing an object at a game official	3 Games	1 Season
Making an obscene gesture towards a game official	2 Games	4 Games
Use of profane language towards a game official	2 Games	4 Games
Verbal threat of bodily harm against a game official	5 Games	1 Season
Any assault of a game official	2 Seasons	5 Seasons
Fighting with a game official	1 Season	5 Seasons
Spitting at or on a game official	3 Games	5 Games
Any of the above violations against a minor serving as a game official	The minimum penalty is doubled	The minimum penalty is doubled
Any of the above violations by a coach, coordinator or MRC official	N/A	The minimum penalty is doubled

General Misconduct

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Suspension - Minor</u>	<u>Suspension – Adult</u>
Entering the field of play (including rink, court, etc.) without permission or otherwise disrupting play	2 Games	4 Games
Entering a bench, dugout or other area reserved for players and coaches during a game without permission	2 Games	4 Games
Violation of MRC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy, including use of racial, ethnic, religious, or other discriminatory slurs	3 Games	5 Games
Throwing an Object onto a playing surface	2 Games	4 Games
Verbal abuse of MRC official or volunteer	1 Game	3 Games
Verbal abuse of another spectator	1 Game	3 Games
Throwing equipment by a player (not at an individual)	1 Game	N/A
Spitting at or on anyone not addressed in the previous section (e.g. MRC official, volunteer or other spectator)	2 Games	4 Games
Verbal threat to anyone not listed above (e.g. MRC official, volunteer or other spectator)	5 Games	1 Season
Throwing an object at anyone not listed above (e.g. MRC official, volunteer or other spectator)	2 Games	4 Games

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Knowingly having an unapproved individual coaching a team by any coach.	2 Games	4 Games
Non-conformance by a commissioner, coordinator, head/assistant coach with posted MRC Rules, Policies or By-Laws	N/A	1 Season
Abuse of property, i.e. township fields, school board fields, MRC owned property	Responsible for all repair costs and/or fines + 1 week suspension from all MRC activities	Responsible for all repair costs and/or fines + 1 year suspension from all MRC activities
Player, coach, volunteer, commissioner, board member, coordinator or spectator conduct not specifically defined above	Subject to Review based on factual circumstances	Subject to Review based on factual circumstances