



The following model athletic code of conduct is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 2002, Chapter 74. NJS 5:17-1 et seq. permits youth sports organizations to require that parents and guardians of all participants agree in writing to a Code of Conduct as a condition of participation in any athletic program.

Preamble

Interscholastic and youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and its 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”. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self control.

I (and my guests) therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports or related activities
2. I will always remember that children participate in sports to have fun. The game is for children, not for adults.
3. I will teach my child that doing one’s best is more important than winning, so that my child may never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his / her performance. The child’s emotional and physical well-being is paramount.
4. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
5. I will never yell at or ridicule my child or another participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. I will emphasize skill development and practice over winning.
7. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games or practices, unless I am one of the team’s official coaches.
8. I will inform all coaches of any disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child, or the safety of others.
9. I will become familiar with the rules of the game and learn the policies of the league.
10. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
11. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or spectator.
12. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any spectator, including, but not limited to booing, taunting, “trash-talking”, or refusing to shake hands
13. I will not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee
14. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
15. I will not use tobacco, drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
16. I will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to use drugs or alcohol at a youth sports event and will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
17. I will not engage in the use of profanity and will not encourage my child, or any other person, to use profanity.
18. 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 game, practice, or event.
19. I will treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
20. I will encourage my child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
21. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or spectator.
22. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
23. I will not initiate or participate in a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or spectator.
24. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to initiate or participate in a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing rules and guidelines while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to any or all of the following disciplinary actions:

1. Verbal or written warning issued by a league or HYAA official.
2. Suspension or immediate ejection from a youth sports event issued by a league or HYAA official who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection on behalf of the organization.
3. Suspension from multiple youth sports events issued by a league or HYAA official who is authorized to issue such suspension on behalf of the organization.
4. Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by the HYAA organization.

Family Name

Parent’s Signature

Parent’s Signature

Date