

FAIRFIELD COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

The success of our youth football program requires a shared commitment among its coaches, players, cheerleaders, and parents as well as an acknowledgement and appreciation for the amount of time the coaches volunteer in order that so many children are able to participate in the program. Our program is intended to be a positive educational experience. Therefore, we ask you to pledge to be a positive role model for your child and others and to keep in mind that the coaches and board members are volunteers. The FCFL has always encouraged sportsmanship, responsibility, and good citizenship both on and off the field.

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials.
2. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect.
3. I will teach my child to play by the rules and resolve conflicts without violence.
4. I will never scorn or yell at any children for making a mistake or losing a game.
5. I will expect that my child's practices and games be held in a safe and healthy environment.
6. I will praise my child for giving his/her best effort regardless of the game outcome.
7. I will respect the coaches time and ability and will not interfere with practices or games.
8. I will make every effort to ensure my child arrives to practices/games at the required time and I will notify the coaches immediately if my child is unable to attend a scheduled practice/game. In the event of unexcused absences from practices or games, I will accept the respective Coaches decision regarding any discipline and / or suspension(s). I will arrange for prompt drop-offs and pick-ups. I understand and agree that if my child does not fully participate in practices and / or games to the extent my child is able to do so, then at the coaches discretion my child may not be allowed to participate in the next practice and / or game as determined by the coaches.
9. I have the obligation to address any concerns that I may have at the time they occur with the Head Coach, member organizations President or FCFL President.
10. I will never enter any part of the playing field to film or take pictures at any time during a game. I will sit in the designated seating area during a game. If a designated area is not available, I will maintain a distance of at least 10 yards from the players.
11. I will volunteer (if at all possible) my time to assist my child's team when asked by either a coach or a team mom. This may include assisting with game day preparations; concession stands, writing newspaper articles, etc.
12. I agree to abide by the aforementioned Fairfield County Football League Parent Code of Conduct and acknowledge that any violation of the above guidelines may subject me to disciplinary actions by the FCFL or my participating member organization, which may include an oral or written warning or suspension from attendance at games and / or practices.

TRUMBULL RANGERS PARENTAL CONDUCT AGREEMENT

I. Parents, this is not the NCAA, NFL or All-Star Cheerleading! We can guarantee that there will be no college recruiters or pro scouts waiting in line to sign your child to a contract at the end of the season. THIS IS YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING! Kids make mistakes, coaches make mistakes and referees make mistakes, none of which will have a lasting effect on your child's future career. Relax, enjoy, laugh and cheer all the children on. Remember that most of the children out there are trying their hardest to perform well and please you and their coach. Never berate any player (including your own child) whether on or off the field for what you perceive as not trying hard enough or making a mistake. Don't humiliate yourself or your child. Any parent or spectator who chooses to yell negative comments to the players or cheerleaders will be required to leave the playing area. If we see a continual problem with a particular parent or spectator, we will ban him/her from attending all games and practices. If the problem persists, your child will be dropped from the program. We will not tolerate this sort of behavior from anyone.

II. All of our coaches are volunteers. They have attended clinics on coaching their respective disciplines. All have a love for the sport and the children they coach. As with players, we will not tolerate any verbal or physical threats or abuse of our coaches by parents or spectators. Offenders of this policy will be barred from attending games and practices. If the problem persists, your child will be dropped from the program. If you have a problem with the way a coach is handling a particular situation, please discuss your concerns with the coach in a calm, cool adult manner after the game or practice and away from other parents or players. In most instances, problems can be resolved by a simple, civil conversation. If you believe after taking this step that a serious problem still exists, please contact a member of the Board of Directors to help resolve the situation.

III. Parents, please do not coach your player or other players from the stands or sidelines. Try to imagine what it is like for the participants when your instructions conflict with what their coach has told them to do. Let the Coach coach!

IV. Over the past seasons, more and more parents verbally abused referees during games. This will not be tolerated. Referees are in charge of the game. They know the rules far better than most parents. Past instances showed that most parents protesting calls did not know the rules for our league, which made their actions even more inappropriate. We all make mistakes once in a while. However, the call is theirs to make. The referees have the right to eject any abusive or threatening spectator. We will support their decisions. We reserve the right to dismiss your child from the program in such instances.

V. All sports require practice to acquire the skills and teamwork necessary to enjoy playing the game. Practices are not optional. Practices are essential to play safely and to acquire vital skills. We expect your child to attend every practice unless there is a valid excuse. Football and cheerleading are true TEAM sports. If your child does not attend practices he/she will not know what the teammates have learned or the game plan and strategy. Nor will his/her skills improve. This creates an unsafe and frustrating situation for all. If your child misses a scheduled practice without a valid excuse, it will be up to the coach to decide whether or how much your child will participate in the next game. Players who consistently miss practice will be dropped from the program due to safety concerns.

VI. If your child must miss a practice, please contact his/her coach as soon as possible with the player's name and reason for the absence.

VII. Participants should be at the field and dressed ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled practice time. This allows the coach to go over the drills and plans for the practice and allows the players time to ask questions. This makes the practice run more smoothly and efficiently. Your child will get more out of the program. Persistent tardiness is also grounds for the coach to assess what role a player should have in subsequent games.

VIII. Remind your child to treat other players, cheerleaders, coaches and referees with the respect they deserve. Ask them to treat others how they themselves would like to be treated. Don't allow your children to berate others for their lack of skills or mistakes remind them how they felt when they were the one being criticized. We ask parents to avoid talking negatively about players, cheerleaders, coaches and referees in front of your children. Remember they have big ears and repeat a lot of what they hear.

IX. All parents are required to staff concession stands as assigned. Such assignments are made on an equitable basis and usually entail two game halves per season, per family. In addition, parents are requested to contribute their time/expertise/money to help the program remain high quality and fun for the children by serving on committees and task forces that are assigned other activities necessary to the program.

X. Only coaches, assistant coaches and players are permitted on the playing field during games and practices. Cheerleaders are permitted in a designated area near the field of play. Parents, siblings and pets must stay off the playing fields.

RISK INFORMATION: I acknowledge the potential dangers of participation in any sport and I understand that participation in football, cheerleading and/or dance may result in BODILY INJURY, PARALYSIS, BRAIN INJURY, PERMANENT DISABILITY AND/OR DEATH. I acknowledge that protective equipment does not prevent all participant injuries, and therefore I release, absolve, indemnify, hold harmless and waive any claim against the coaches, local, league and regional organization(s), and any and all organizers, sponsors, supervisors, participants, and persons transporting my child to and from activities, for any injury to my child whether the result of negligence or for any other cause.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION: I give permission for emergency medical/dental treatment or first aid to be administered to my child for any illness/injury/accident resulting from participation in activities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_