

Downriver Lacrosse Association Player and Parent Code of Conduct

Player Code of Conduct

- Practice and compete hard, and play to have fun.
- Work on and off the field and to improve your skills.
- Be a team player - get along with your teammates.
- Learn teamwork, sportsmanship, and discipline.
- Always be a good sport.
- Never use foul or harmful language.
- Learn the rules and play by them.
- Be on time and ready when practice or game warm-ups begins.
- Respect your coach, teammates, parents, opponents, and officials.
- Never argue with an official's decision.

Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct

ROLE OF PARENTS:

A partnership among parents, coaches, and players provides the foundation for a successful team experience. Attend coach/parent meetings (if applicable) and learn how the organization and team plans to coordinate around a successful season and foster the growth of youth lacrosse in the downriver area. If there are concerns, please reach out to the board, let your players coach know, or empower your son/daughter to take the initiative to speak with the coach. When on the sidelines, resist the temptation to “coach,” recognizing that you may confuse or contradict the coach’s instruction. Please do not publicly criticize the coach or teammates. It is crucial to the team’s success that players develop respect for their coach. Support your son/daughter in doing their best at whatever level they participate.”

PARENT AND SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT:

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 a parent and/or spectator:

- I will encourage, but not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game they are playing is meant for youth, not adults.
- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect my child's or others' safety.
- 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 other sporting events.
- I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent, such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
- I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of players.
- I will grow my understanding of the game and teach my child to play by the rules, problem solve, and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will insist that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
- 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.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard and make my child feel like a winner every time.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I agree not to criticize, belittle, antagonize, berate or otherwise incite the opposing team, its players, coaches, cheerleaders, fans, or officials/judges by word of mouth or by a gesture.
- I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- I will respect the officials and their authority during games, never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and speak with coaches at an agreed-upon time and place.
- I will support a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sporting events.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the coaches of the team.