

Upper St. Clair Athletic Association Parent 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 of a youth athlete I therefore agree:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will inform the coach of any disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
3. I (and my guests) 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 sporting event.
4. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
5. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
6. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect.
7. 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.
8. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
9. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning.
10. 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.
11. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and refrain from direct and indirect verbal criticisms or threats, threatening gestures, personal confrontation or physical abuse.
12. I will not question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field or facility, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
13. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
14. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

I understand and accept that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved
- Game forfeit through the official or coach
- Parental suspension from participation in or attendance of programs for season or other specified time period