



Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to establish common expectations of players, parents and coaches so that youth sports programs provide a constructive learning experience for players in a positive sports environment.

Expectations of Coaches

1. Coaches should remember the purpose of the program is for players to have a constructive learning experience, within an enjoyable team activity.
 - a. Help players develop an appreciation for the sport
 - b. Keep winning and losing in the proper perspective
2. Coaches will demonstrate good sportsmanship by being positive role models.
 - a. Be on time for meetings, practices and games
 - b. Show respect in language and behavior toward players, coaches, officials, parents/guardians and spectators
 - c. Be approachable for players and parents/guardians
3. Coaches will promote a healthy and safe environment for players.
 - a. Monitor the court/field/diamond for safety considerations
 - b. Monitor the condition of all equipment for safety considerations
 - c. Refrain from the use of substances that are illegal to players in the presence of players in the sports environment (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, drugs)
 - d. Ensure that safety is at the forefront of all games and practices for one self and one another
4. Coaches will teach and reinforce the fundamentals and basic skills of the sport.
5. Coaches should possess knowledge of game/league rules. Rules and other resources are available from the Park District.
6. Coaches will accept responsibility for the conduct of all players, assistant coaches, parents, guardians and fans connected with their teams.
7. Coaches will use the designated communication process when they have an issue with the program.
8. Coaches will know and support the consequences to players and parents/guardians if there are violations of the Code of Conduct and be consistent/fair in the application of the code (consequences listed below).
9. Coaches will communicate with players and parents/guardians regarding:
 - a. Player and parent/guardian expectations
 - b. Game/league rules
 - c. Communication process
 - d. Consequences for players and parents/guardians if there are violations of the Code of Conduct
 - e. Volunteer assistance with the program

Expectations of Players

1. Remember the purpose of the program is to have a positive learning experience, within an enjoyable team activity.
 - a. Develop an appreciation of the sport
 - b. Keep winning and losing in the proper perspective
2. Players will demonstrate good sportsmanship.
 - a. Be on time for meetings, practices and games
 - b. Show respect in language and behavior toward players, coaches, officials, spectators and parents/guardians
3. Players will personally strive to promote a healthy & safe environment for themselves and other players.
 - a. Check condition of all equipment for safety considerations
 - b. Monitor their own health to know the physical conditions required for playing safely
 - c. Refrain from the use of illegal substances (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, drugs)
 - d. Ensure that safety is at the forefront of all games and practices for one self and one another
4. Players will learn the fundamentals and develop/practice the basic skills of the sport.
5. Players will build their knowledge of the game/league rules.
6. Players will accept responsibility for their own behavior.
7. Players will know and support the Code of Conduct and understand the consequences of Code violations (consequences listed below).

Expectations of Parents, Guardians & Spectators

1. Remember the purpose of the program is for players to have a positive learning experience within an enjoyable team activity. Keep winning and losing in the proper perspective.
2. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being positive role models.
 - a. Ensure that players show up on time to practices and games
 - b. Ensure that players are wearing the proper clothing and have proper equipment for their sport
 - c. Show respect in language and behavior toward players, coaches, officials and other spectators
 - d. Know basic game rules and reinforce them with children
3. Promote a healthy and safe environment for players.
 - a. Refrain from the use of substances that are illegal to minors in the presence of minors in the sports environment (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, drugs)
 - b. Check the health of players to ensure their ability to play
 - c. Ensure that safety is at the forefront of all games and practices for one self and one another
4. Provide volunteer assistance, as specific needs are identified.
5. Use the designated communication process when there is an issue with the program.
6. Parents, guardians and fans will know & support the Code of Conduct and understand the consequences of code violations (consequences listed below).

Sanctions for Coaches, Players and Spectators

The Downers Grove Park District has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy for violators of the Code of Conduct. The Park District reserves the right to suspend violators of the code of conduct from participation in the Affiliate's programs, in other Park District programs, and where the Park District determines it is necessary to issue a District wide suspension and no-trespass order for all of the Park District facilities that requires application to the Executive Director to have the suspension lifted. At the sole discretion of the Park District, the grounds for disciplinary action include, but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Sanctions for Coaches - Ejection/Suspension
 - a. Not following mandated playing time rules for all players
 - b. Failure to develop knowledge of or follow the league rules
 - c. Failure to treat coaches, players, officials and spectators with respect
 - d. Leaving a field or facility before a parent/guardian has picked up all players
 - e. Failure to coach in accordance with the Coaches Code of Conduct
 - f. Foul or abusive language
 - g. Bullying
 - h. Threatening a coach, spectator, official or player
 - i. Allowing foul language or threatening behavior by players
 - j. Use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other illegal substances during a practice or game
 - k. Sexual behavior or use of sexual language
 - l. Theft or destruction of property
 - m. Inappropriate references to sex, age, color, religion, national origin or any disability
 - n. Inappropriate attire
 - o. Interference with game play, except for instances of medical emergency

Each action has a consequence (based on severity); however, an ejection from the game will lead to an automatic one game suspension.