

East/West League Parent & Spectator Sport Code of Conduct

Children's sports are supposed to be fun—for the children. Unfortunately, many parents, fans, and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sports activities because adults unfairly take the fun away.

The following Code of Conduct for parents and spectators has been adapted from the National Youth Sports Foundation. We expect all parents, spectators, and coaches to abide by this simple code and help reinforce what sports are all about...BEING FUN FOR EVERYONE.

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 or spectator:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. *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 other sporting event.*
3. *I (and my guests) 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.*
4. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
5. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, gender, or ability.
6. I will respect the officials and coaches and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront officials or coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
7. 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.
8. I understand playing time is based on performance at practice and sportsmanship.
9. I will not approach the official scorebook or clock operator.

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

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, Athletic Director, and or school administrator
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the school
- Game forfeit through the official
- Parental season suspension
- Student/athlete dropped from the team

Athlete's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

*This form must be signed and returned in order for your child to participate in any games for the season.