



Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct

Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks

Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks recognizes that recreational and youth sports play a vital role in promoting the physical, social, and emotional development of children. We also recognize the need to provide a fun and safe playing environment for all. Therefore, all coaches, players, parents, and guests must abide by our Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct.

Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct

All those involved with youth sports will demonstrate good sportsmanship, demand it of others, AND treat all others with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability. There is zero tolerance for aggressive behavior, bullying, violence, profanity, or the use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol at any youth sporting event. The Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct applies to all Department and Recreation Council programs and activities, including, but not limited to, the playing area, parking lot, or social media, to name a few.

Parents/Guardians:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence.
3. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning.
4. I will praise my child for competing fairly, trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
5. 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.
6. I (*and my guests*) will be a positive role model and encourage good sportsmanship by showing respect, being courteous, and demonstrate positive support for everyone at games and practices.
7. I (*and my guests*) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with anyone, such as booing and taunting, refusing to congratulate at the end of the game, or using profane language or gestures. We will respect the officials and their authority.
8. In the event of a disagreement, I will not question, discuss, or confront coaches at the field, and will take time to speak with them at an agreed upon time and place.
9. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of their coaches.

Coaches:

1. I understand volunteering is a privilege, not a right, and may be accepted/not accepted at any time.
2. I will apply for my yearly background check and wear my ID badge when I volunteer.
3. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal desires to win.
4. I will treat each player as an individual, remembering that there is a large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
5. I promise to review and practice basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
6. I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players.
7. I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship.
8. I will not cheat or engage in any form of unethical behavior that violates rules of the program, Recreation Council, or Department.
9. I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach and will teach these rules to my players.
10. I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for the children, not the adults.

Players:

1. I will have FUN and will learn the rules of the game.
2. I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches, and in doing so, will expect to receive fair playing time.
3. I will be a good sport (win or lose), be honest, fair, and always show good sportsmanship.
4. I will learn the value of commitment to the team and inform my coach when I cannot participate.
5. I will put personal goals aside for the betterment of the team.
6. I understand that failure to abide by the Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct could result negatively in my ability to practice or play in games.

Failure to abide by the Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, verbal or written warning, ejection from a current event, suspension for future events, or suspension for a sports season, among others. My signature indicates that I fully understand the Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct and will review it with my child(ren).

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____