

Goffstown Youth Football Association

Football and Cheer for Dunbarton, Goffstown, New Boston, and Weare since 1994

Code of Conduct

Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social, and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches, and players to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship as well as good citizenship. Moreover, adults, involved in youth sports events should be role models of good sportsmanship and good citizenship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control.

I recognize that being a member of the community carries with it responsibilities and rewards, and that as a member, I must not only embrace those responsibilities, but also conduct myself both on and off the playing field and competition events in a way that exhibits respect for others and myself. I therefore resolve to conduct myself with dignity as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that I

- Must accept accountability for my behavior and its outcomes.
- Must honor my obligations and promises.
- Must exercise self-control.
- Must be willing to be fair with others in my dealings on and off the playing field.
- Must take pride in my accomplishments and myself but never at the expense of demeaning another person or group.
- Must respect the efforts of others.
- Must respect authority.
- Must play by the spirit, not just the letter, of the rules of the game and the rules of life.
- Must strive to make my community - whether that be the team on which I play or the community in which I live - better because of my contributions as a member and as a citizen.

I pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, or participating in a youth sports program and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

- I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- I will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety, or well being of any coach, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- I will not use drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate, or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- I will not engage in the use of profanity.
- I will treat any coach, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or ability.
- I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- I will not initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.

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I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

- Verbal warning issued by a league or association official.
- Written warning issued by a league or association official authorized to do so.
- Suspension or immediate ejection from a youth sports event issued by a league or association official who is authorized to do so.
- Suspension from multiple youth sports events issued by a league or association official who is authorized to do so.
- Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by a league or association official who is authorized to do so.

All participants are expected to attend all scheduled practices and games, and to arrive and be picked up on time. It is the participant's or parent's responsibility to notify the head coach of any practice or games a participant will be unable to attend. Any missed practices or games without the coach's approval will be considered unexcused absences. Excused absence are illness, school related functions, doctor appointments, religion classes, and any other circumstances that come up that have been approved by the head coach. Three unexcused absences may result in the participant being permanently removed from the roster. This decision is made by the Board of Directors, the respective Director, and/or the head coach.

Parents should address any team related issues or concerns directly to the head coach. Parents are asked to wait 24 hours before approaching the head coach. Sometimes in the heat of the moment parents and coaches say things that they really don't mean. This can hurt the player or team because things were not handled correctly. The parent & coach relationship is important, but the overall decisions should be based on what is best for the team and players. The 24 hour rule is in place to help protect the players and team. Both parents and coaches should refrain from discussing team related concerns in front of participants. Parents who are unable to resolve their concerns by dealing with the head coach should bring their concerns to the Cheer Director. Please remember that this association is made up of volunteers who should be commended for their efforts and never chastised for where they fall short. Working together as coaches, parents, and board members, we can make this association very successful, an association of which both parents and children can be proud.

I have read, understand and accept the above code of conduct. I understand that GYFA Cheer is a commitment of 10 hours of practice per week before the first game and 6 hours of practice per week after the first game. I am aware that choreography sessions will be added in addition to weekly practice hours. I am aware that Regional, National, and YCADA Globals competitions can extend the season into February.

Parent/Guardian 1 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____