**NMARS Santa Fe NFL Flag Football League: Expectations for Spectators, Fans, Parents, Coaches, and Players**

At the NMARS Santa Fe NFL Flag Football League, we are committed to providing a safe, fun, and supportive environment for all players, coaches, parents, and spectators. The following expectations help ensure a positive experience for everyone involved in the league.

**Spectators and Fans:**

1. **Respect and Sportsmanship**:
Spectators and fans are expected to show respect for all players, coaches, officials, and other spectators. Taunting, negative comments, or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Please remember, the focus is on the kids and their development.
2. **Clean-Up Courtesy**:
Everyone is asked to pick up after themselves and dispose of trash properly. Let’s work together to keep the field and surrounding areas clean and respectful for all participants.
3. **Admission Fees**:
	* **Adults** (17+): $5
	* **Children and Students**: Free
	* Please note, no animals are allowed at the field except for certified service animals wearing a vest, in compliance with SFPS rules. Glass bottles and shelled seeds are also prohibited.
4. **Supportive Environment**:
Please cheer for all players in a positive and encouraging manner. We want to foster a fun and supportive atmosphere where all athletes can thrive.

**Parents:**

1. **Role Models**:
Parents are encouraged to model positive behavior, showing respect and good sportsmanship to players, coaches, and officials. Your example plays a crucial role in creating a supportive environment.
2. **Communication with Coaches**:
Parents should communicate any concerns or questions with coaches before or after games, not during. If your child will be missing a game or practice, notify the coach ahead of time.
3. **Player Commitment**:
Ensure that your child attends all practices and games, unless there is a legitimate reason for absence (e.g., illness or family emergency). Consistent attendance helps build team cohesion and individual growth.
4. **Volunteer Support**:
We encourage parents to volunteer and contribute to the success of the league. Volunteers can assist with game-day operations, help set up, or support coaching staff.

**Coaches:**

1. **Player Development**:
Coaches should focus on developing players’ skills, encouraging fair play, and promoting teamwork. Coaches are responsible for maintaining a positive atmosphere and helping players grow both on and off the field.
2. **Sportsmanship**:
Coaches are expected to demonstrate respect and professionalism at all times. Remind your players that sportsmanship, respect for referees, and treating opponents with kindness are just as important as winning.
3. **Game Day Rules**:
	* **Mouthpieces**: Required during games. If a player forgets or loses theirs, extras will be available for purchase at the concession stand.
	* **Flag Belts**: Ensure that flag belts are securely fastened and worn on the hips, not the front or back. Double-check all gear before the game.
	* **Timeliness**: Coaches should ensure players arrive at least 20-30 minutes prior to game time for warm-ups.
	* **Conduct**: If there is a questionable call, coaches are asked to wait until after the game to discuss it with officials. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
4. **Concussion Training**:
All coaches (head and assistant) must complete the concussion training via the NFL FLAG portal to be allowed on the field. Assistant coaches must be signed up and trained to meet league compliance and ensure player safety.
5. **Coaches Badges**:
Coaches must wear their badge to be on the field during games. Anyone not listed as a coach or team parent must pay the entrance fee and will not be allowed on the field.

**Players:**

1. **Respect for Others**:
Players are expected to show respect to teammates, coaches, referees, and opponents. This includes demonstrating good sportsmanship both on and off the field.
2. **Effort and Attitude**:
Players should give their best effort at all times, maintaining a positive attitude, working hard in practice, and supporting teammates during games. Remember, effort is more important than winning.
3. **Uniform and Equipment**:
Players are required to wear their league-issued uniform and appropriate gear during games and practices. If any equipment is lost or damaged, players must notify their coach immediately. (Please talk to a league rep for exceptions)
4. **Behavior on and off the Field**:
Players must demonstrate good character at all times, both during league activities and in their personal lives. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.
5. **Practice Expectations**:
	* **Punctuality**: Players are expected to arrive on time for practices.
	* **Active Participation**: Players should engage fully in all drills and activities, always giving their best effort.
	* **Communication**: If a player cannot attend a practice, they should notify the coach in advance.

**General Game Day and Practice Guidelines:**

* **Game Day Reminders**:
	+ **Admission**: $5 for adults (ages 17+), students and children are free.
	+ **Animals**: No animals allowed, except certified service animals wearing a vest.
	+ **Prohibited Items**: No glass bottles or shelled seeds allowed at the field.
	+ **Clean-Up**: Please pick up trash to keep the field clean.
	+ **Punctuality**: Arrive on time to help everything run smoothly.
* **Concussion Training**:
All coaches must complete concussion training before they can coach on the field.

By adhering to these expectations, we can ensure that the NMARS Santa Fe NFL Flag Football League remains a fun, safe, and supportive environment for all participants. Thank you for your commitment to making this season a success!