

## **Codes of Conduct Sportsmanship Matters**

A growing problem in youth sports today is the all-too common attitude that winning is everything. Nothing could be further from the truth! In any athletic contest, the competitors should do their best to try and win. But winning or losing is only a result, not the reason we play the game.

Everyone in the game should have a sense of fair play and good sportsmanship. Satisfaction should come from playing your hardest and doing your best. There is a huge difference between losing a game and being a loser. You are never a loser for having done your best! The highest score may win the game, but winners are those who respect their opponents and appreciate skills of the sport.

Why play youth sports? BECAUSE it's FUN!

Other benefits include:

Develop a continuing lifestyle of healthy physical recreational activity

Develop fundamental motor skills

Acquire skills for recreation and leisure

Learn to interact with others

Learn values such as loyalty, commitment and respect

Learn how to accept constructive criticism

Gain positive self esteem

Make friends and understand teamwork

Commit yourself to excellence – these codes of conduct are not limited to the playing field!

## **Players Code of Conduct**

I will play for FUN!

I will work hard to improve my skills.

I will be a team player – to do my best and to cooperate with and support my teammates.

I will learn teamwork, sportsmanship and self-discipline.

I will be on time for practices and games.

I will take care of myself , so I can benefit the team.

I will learn the rules and play by them.

I will respect myself, teammates, coaches, parents, opponents and officials.

I will never argue with an official's decision.

I am responsible to control my thoughts, words and actions at all times.

Player signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Parents Code of Conduct**

I will not force my child to participate in sports, but support his/her desire to play his/her chosen sport, for his/her enjoyment. = FUN!

I will encourage my child to play by the rules.

I will be a role model of good sportsmanship – I will applaud the good plays of both teams.

I will not embarrass my child by yelling at players, coaches, officials, or opponents. I will show respect at all times.

I will encourage skill development and emphasize how they benefit my child. I will de-emphasize excessive competitiveness between younger siblings.

I will re-enforce the positive points of the game.

I will never verbally or physical insult/abuse any person (including my child, coach, other layers or parents) after a game or practice.

I will recognize the importance of volunteer coaches and support the program.

I will learn the rules of the game and support the officials.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Spectators Code of Conduct

Display good sportsmanship.

Always respect players, coaches and officials.

Act appropriately; I will not taunt, deride, insult or intimidate players, coaches and officials, or disturb the other spectators.

Cheer the good plays of all participants, never boo the opponent.

Cheer in a positive manner – no profanity, rude or objectionable cheers, gestures or actions.

Help provide a safe and fun environment; no littering, throwing of objects onto the field, no smoking and no alcohol/illegal substances allowed on school or municipal recreation facilities.

Support referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.

Respect locker rooms and warm-up areas as private areas for players, coaches and officials.

Be supportive after the game, win or lose. Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.

Spectators: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Coaches' Code of Conduct

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of my personal desire to win.

I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

I promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat the injuries of my players. I will stress habits that promote good health.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of the sport and I will teach these rules to my players.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach for this sport, with consideration to players' developmental ranges and abilities.

I will be generous with praise when it is deserved. I will be consistent and honest, fair and just. I will not criticize players publicly. I will learn to be a more effective communicator and coach.

I will adjust to the personal needs and concerns of the players. I will be a good listener.

I will give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence, and develop self-esteem.

I will maintain an open line of communication with the parents. I will explain and maintain the goals and objectives of the sport association.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for the children and not the adults.

Any violations that result in suspension or termination may be reported to the Mt. Olive Recreation Department.

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_