

Somerset Youth Football League Parent Code of Conduct

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 values.

I therefore agree:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
2. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
3. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
4. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
5. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent such as taunting and booing, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
6. I will not encourage behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
7. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
8. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
9. I will teach my child to do his/her best. I will praise my child for competing fairly.
10. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
11. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field. I will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
12. 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.

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, and/or league official
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by league
- Game forfeit through the official or coach
- Parental season suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by league
- Player season suspension

Any physical contact made by one person on another person at any SYFL event will result in an immediate suspension pending an investigation by the league. Assault will be defined as a punch, kick, slap, spit or any physical contact upon another person.