

## Parents' Code of Conduct

Adapted from the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation and Adopted by the GSSA

1. I will not force my children to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun, and that the game is for youths, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical or emotional disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or of others, or may require special coaching needs for my child.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I and my guests will be positive role models for my child, and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy – and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
6. I and my guests will not engage in any unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent, such as booing or taunting, refusing to shake hands, using profane or threatening language or gestures, or accosting another individual in a threatening manner.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health or well being of the players.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or my child's performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices, and how they benefit my child, over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
14. 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.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with the coaches at the an agreed-upon time and place.
16. I will demand a sport environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.

I hereby acknowledge the foregoing and agreed to abide by this code of conduct.

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Signature

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name(s)