

Parents' Code of Conduct

By entering this facility or playing field, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care & encouragement for my child & other children participating in youth sports by following this Code of Conduct.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches & officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.

I will place the emotional & physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe & healthy environment.

I will provide support for coaches & officials working with my child to provide positive & enjoyable experiences for all.

I will demand a drug, alcohol & tobacco-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining of their use at all youth sports events.

I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans & officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.

I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience within my personal constraints by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach agrees to the Youth Sports Coaches' Code of Ethics.

Spectators' Code of Conduct

As a spectator at a Groveport Parks & Recreation Dept. sponsored youth athletic program, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care & encouragement for all of the children participating.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support (such as: clapping, speaking phrases of encouragement, etc.) for all players, coaches & officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.

I will place the emotional & physical well-being of the children ahead of any personal desire for a certain team to win.

I will respect the decisions of and provide positive encouragement & support for coaches, officials, scorekeepers and parks & recreation dept. staff.

I will not use intimidating or foul language while at the facility.

I will refrain from using drugs, alcohol or tobacco products at all youth sports events.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for all of the children.

At no point before, during or after a game will I leave the spectator area to confront a player, coach, official or parks & recreation dept. staff member.

I understand that I may be directed to leave the facility due to my conduct. I further understand that if I do not cooperate with the parks & recreation dept. staff, that the police may be called and charges may be filed.

Players' Code of Conduct

I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials & parents at every game & practice.

I will attend every practice & game that is reasonably possible and notify my coach if I cannot.

I will expect to receive a fair and equal amount of playing time.

I will do my very best to listen & learn from my coaches.

I will treat my coaches with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.

I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun.

I deserve to play in an alcohol, tobacco & drug free environment and expect adults to respect that wish.

I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.

I will do my very best in school.

I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn & have fun.

Coaches Code of Ethics

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

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

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

I will promise to review & practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

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

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play & good sportsmanship.

I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my player.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.

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

The Groveport Parks & Recreation Department has adopted a new rule into all of our youth athletic programs. All parents/legal guardians of children participating in our youth athletic programs are required to sign documentation acknowledging receipt and understanding of management of head injury (concussion) and back/spinal injury.

If a coach suspects that a player has sustained a head or back (spine) injury, the player needs to be removed from the game or practice immediately. The coach should make the parent aware of the injury and make them aware that the child may not return to the playing field/surface for either a game or practice until the player is symptom-free and has been cleared to play by a physician.

The below information regarding concussions has been adapted from the CDC, the 3rd International Conference on Concussion in Sport & Nationwide Children’s Hospital

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage & death if not recognized and managed properly. In other words, even a “ding” or bump on the head can be serious. You can’t see a concussion and most concussions occur without loss of consciousness.

Signs & symptoms of a concussion may include one or all of the following: headache, dizziness, nausea/vomiting, blurred or double vision, unsteadiness/off balance, loss of consciousness, ringing in the ears, memory loss, changes in mental status (memory, judgment, cognitive function). Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away. What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon?

If you think your child has suffered a concussion... Athletes with the signs & symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs & symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recover, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athletes will often under report symptoms of injuries. And concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches and students is the key for student-athlete safety.

Parents should also inform their child’s coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember, it’s better to miss one game than miss the whole season. When in doubt, the athlete sits out. For current information on concussions, visit www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports

The below information regarding back/spinal injuries has been provided by Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Neck and spine injuries are common in high contact sports, like football, soccer or lacrosse. Possible causes include fracture, herniated disk and/or nerve pathology. Signs & symptoms of neck/back injury include, but are not limited to point tenderness and/or pain over any bony prominence in the back of the neck; numbness/tingling in arms, legs or down the spine; inability to feel or move face or limbs; muscle spasm; deformity.

If you think that a child has suffered a neck or spine injury... Do NOT move the child. Stabilize the head & neck in the position that it is in and do NOT let the child move. If any of the above symptoms persist, call 9-1-1 and have the child transported immediately to the hospital. Serious neck injury should be suspected for ALL UNCONSCIOUS athletes until proven otherwise.

I have read and agree to adhere to the Parent’s Code of Conduct, Spectator’s Code of Conduct, Player’s Code of Conduct, Coaches Code of Conduct (if applicable) and the Head/Spinal Injury Rule. I realize that I (or my child) may be indefinitely suspended from the youth sports program for unsportsmanlike behavior. Refusal to sign this document will prevent our staff from processing your child’s registration.

Parent/Legal Guardian Printed Name

Signature

Date

STAFF: Please provide parent/legal guardian with a blank copy of this document for their reference.