



PARENT/SPECTATOR, COACH and PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT Outdoor Soccer

It's simple: BE A GOOD SPORT!

Children's sports are supposed to be fun and **for the children**. Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sports activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults. The code of conduct for this league has been developed by the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation (NYSSF) and Denton Parks and Recreation Department (DPARD).

Parents, fans, and coaches who follow this simple code can help reinforce what sports are all about... BEING FUN FOR EVERYONE!

1. Teams and spectators should demonstrate good sportsmanship! Team chants/cheers and spectator and coaches comments should not be derogatory or demeaning towards opposing teams/players/coaches.
2. Spectators are required to be on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches.
3. Spectators or players are not permitted to approach the score table or referee at any time. Only the head or assistant coach has authority to speak with the score table or referee if there is a question regarding the awarding of a point.
4. Spectators and coaches will be a positive role model for children and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, spectators, officials, and staff at every game, practice or league event.
5. Spectators, coaches and players will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or spectator such as booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
6. Spectators, coaches and players will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
7. Spectators and coaches should praise their team members for competing fairly, trying hard, and make the children feel like a winner every time, regardless of the score!



8. The use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol during youth sports is prohibited by City ordinance. Spectators, coaches and players will refrain from their use during all league activities.

9. Parents, remember that all coaches are volunteers! Respect the fact that they are willing to give so much of their time to your child.

10. Each team's coach is held responsible for the conduct of their fans/spectators/team participants.

11. If spectators, players, and/or coaches fail to abide by the code of conduct, they will be subject to disciplinary action as decided by the Denton Parks and Recreation Department. Disciplinary action could include, but is not limited to: verbal warnings, written warnings, ejections, and suspensions for various lengths.

12. Officials, score keepers, and DPARD staff have the authority to remove a player, coach, or spectator from a game and can declare the game a forfeit due to unsportsmanlike conduct.

13. Any player, coach, or spectator ejected from any league activity is suspended for a minimum of one (1) week from all DPARD league activities. The suspension could be longer depending on the severity of the infraction. Suspensions are not eligible for appeal.

14. Players, coaches, and spectators who have been ejected must leave the complex and may not return until the completion of their suspension.

15. No fighting is allowed. First offense is a suspension for the rest of the season, second offense results in one year loss of eligibility in all league play or indefinite suspension if deemed severe.

16. Suspensions carry over from season to season, and are enforced for all DPARD leagues.