



INYFC CODE OF CONDUCT & DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

INYFC League Adult Code of Conduct

In order to uphold the goals of the Inland Northwest Youth Football & Cheer (INYFC) league, and to ensure that every participant has the benefit of a safe, fun learning environment, all parents, guardians, and other attendees of INYFC events must pledge to behave in a respectful, courteous, and sportsmanlike manner at all times. Events include, but are not limited to practices, camps, competitions, fundraisers, and banquets.

Board members reserve the right to remove anyone who is using alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or appears intoxicated. Additionally, INYFC has a zero-tolerance policy for flagrantly rude or intimidating behavior. Spectators will be asked to immediately leave for engaging in verbal or physical abuse, including heckling, taunting, ridiculing, booing, throwing objects, using profane language or making obscene gestures. All officials, coaches, volunteers, participants, parents, and other event attendees will receive the same level of respect.

For first-time infractions for verbal or physical intimidation, the hosting association may issue a written warning to the individual regarding the misbehavior. The offending adult's children may also be removed from the event if warranted. A second offense will result in the adult being banned from all INYFC league events for a minimum of one year from the date of the occurrence. Their children may also be suspended from participating in INYFC programs during that time period.

A ban will be issued for first-time physical assaults or threats of bodily harm against any adult or child. The penalty will last for a minimum of one year from the date of the offense. Children of any instigators or participants in a physical altercation, whether on school grounds or outside the competition gates, may also be removed from all INYFC league programs for the same length of time.

After the ban has expired, if the individual again breaks their pledged Code of Conduct, then the individual will be permanently banned from all INYFC events. The individual's children may also be permanently removed from a team or prevented from registering for any INYFC programs.

INYFC League Members Code of Conduct

All INYFC volunteers and participants will abide by a Members Code of Conduct, which includes the following provisions in addition to the ones listed above. By signing this form, you agree that INYFC board members have the authority to impose a penalty, including permanent removal from the program, if any of these rules are broken.

As a member of the INYFC league, whether at the practice field or attending a competition, I pledge to:

Field Rules

- Not smoke, vape, consume alcohol, or use drugs on school grounds.
- Not use abusive or profane language or engage in conduct that intimidates or escalates a tense situation.
- Stay within the designated visitor's area. I will not enter the field, track, or players box without permission.
- Not engage in excessive sideline coaching by shouting instructions to a player from the sidelines.
- Accept the decisions of the game officials. I will not heckle or question field calls.
- Not criticize or intimidate an opposing team's players, cheer squad, coaching staff, or fans either verbally or with gestures.
- Be jointly responsible for monitoring the conduct of members and guests. I will notify a member of the board or coaching staff about an escalating situation instead of trying to handle it myself.

INYFC Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Guidelines

Coaching Staff and Parents

- Immediately remove a participant from practice or competition at the first sign of a health concern. A serious injury, including sprains and concussions, requires a medical release from a doctor before play resumes.
- If necessary, then I will deliver constructive criticism to a player after the event, either in private with a parent or in the presence of team members if others might benefit from the correction.
- Emphasize that good athletes strive to be excellent students and winning is the result of good teamwork.
- Encourage the value of sportsmanship by following the minimum play and mercy score rules as well as demanding player safety techniques.
- Promote healthy athletic practices. I will not endorse “sweating down” tactics or recommend medications or performance-enhancing vitamins or equipment.
- Only allow eligible, registered participants on the roster to participate in an INYFC event, including having younger siblings on the field. Teenagers can register to volunteer as coaches in training, and parents must have a badge to enter the field.
- Refuse any cash or in-kind payment as an INYFC league volunteer or participant. This includes any coach, expert, consultant, choreographer, or player, regardless of roster status.
- Use social media as a platform to encourage and uplift all players and teams. I will not post derogatory or negative comments toward players, coaches, board members, or officials.

INYFC Process for Considering Disciplinary Action

1. No disciplinary action shall be taken against a member until they receive the opportunity of a hearing. However, depending on the severity of the violation and past conduct violations, the INYFC President has the discretion to temporarily suspend an accused member while the hearing process is pending.
2. A randomly assigned quorum of the INYFC Disciplinary Committee shall meet within 14 days to collect reports and determine if disciplinary action is necessary. The quorum will consider all reports of a member's Code violation. Petitions are not accepted. Each individual must submit a letter.
3. If disciplinary action is warranted, which requires a majority vote, then the member will be contacted immediately by certified letter, indicating the alleged violation of the Code agreement. The member, coach, and team manager will also receive a copy via email. The accused member reserves the right to request a factfinding hearing and appear before the Disciplinary Committee to dispute the allegations.
4. Hearing requests must be made within 72 hours of receipt of the certified letter. The member's failure to respond will be deemed as an admission of guilt to the allegations, and the Disciplinary Committee shall then consider the appropriate penalty under the Disciplinary Guidelines.
5. A requested hearing shall be conducted by the assigned quorum no later than 10 days later. The hearing will be conducted by the INYFC President, who has the discretion to allow additional witness testimony or statements from representatives.
6. The quorum shall vote at the conclusion of the hearing if disciplinary action is warranted. A majority vote is required for any level of disciplinary action, including but not limited to:
 - Warning or ejection from an INYFC-sponsored event.
 - Suspension for one game, multiple games, a season, or a full year from date of occurrence. Three violations shall be an automatic suspension for the remainder of the season.
 - Expulsion from an association or the league depending on severity of the infraction.
7. The member shall receive written notice by certified mail of the hearing outcome within 72 hours. Minutes of the quorum hearing are also forwarded to the INYFC secretary for inclusion in official league records.

INYFC Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Guidelines

The INYFC Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Guidelines is an honor agreement between you and the other participants, parents, coaches, officials, and representatives of the league. Your signature legally certifies that this document has been fully read, is understood to the best of your ability, and is agreed upon between all parties. Not knowing a published rule in this document or the official Rule Book will not be an acceptable defense for alleged violations of the Code.

Every member, including board representatives, coaching staff, and parents, are individually and collectively responsible for communicating and modeling these rules. Spectators who have not signed this agreement will be held to the same standards. As the league member, you are responsible for your guests' behavior. If your guest is asked to leave the premises and does not comply, then you and/or your participating child may also be removed. Continued problems with the same person can result in the guest or member being banned from future INYFC events, including practices and competitions.

Violations of the INYFC Disciplinary Guidelines should be reported to the board immediately. The board has sole discretion in the enforcement of rules, investigation of violations, and execution of penalties.

I declare that I agree to follow the outlined terms of the INYFC Code of Conduct.

Print Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____