

# AZCFL Player Code of Conduct

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(Player's Name – Printed)

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

The teams and players that are playing in this league are considered the best in minor professional football. By saying this, it is important to show sportsmanship at all games. Shaking hands, showing respect, and helping one another is expected of our players. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated. There will be consequences, suspensions, fines, etc up to and including league dismissal.

## **CONDUCT**

All persons associated with the AZCFL are required to avoid “conduct detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the Arizona Cactus Football League.” This requirement applies to players, coaches, other team staff, owners, game officials and all others privileged to work/volunteer in the AZCFL. All persons participating in AZCFL events (games, fundraisers, etc.) will conduct themselves in a professional manner both on and off the field and on social media accounts as well. Conduct that undermines or puts at risk the integrity and reputation of the AZCFL, its teams or players, such as Profanity and foul language is unacceptable. It is mandatory that Coaches report any negative behavior by team members’ on/off the field. Persons who fail to live up to this standard of conduct are guilty of conduct detrimental and subject to discipline, even where the conduct itself does not result in conviction of a crime. Definitions can be detailed below, and discipline is detailed in the code of conduct in a later section of these by-laws.

## **THREATS**

- Referees must be immediately notified if any threats are made.
- Referees must notify coaches of both teams when threats are made.
- If threats continue, the player is ejected, and the police are called.
- The referees have the right to call the game if they are threatened.
- Threatening a referee will automatically result in a 1-game suspension.
- Threats made to any person's life will result in the police being called and the offender will be banned from the AZCFL for life.

## **TAUNTING**

- Taunting the opposing team, staff, and players will not be tolerated. Whether by the person who instigates it or the person who retaliates, both can be ejected.
- Referees will take action during the game; league will take action after the game.
- If a player is injured in the game all players will report to their teams' huddle, and not celebrate while the player is looked after.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA - RADIO - TELEVISION - PRESS**

There will be no delayed or live televising of any football game(s), unless approved by the AZCFL and/or League marketing coordinator. If any person(s) or TV station requests a delayed taping, please direct them to the AZCFL office. Request for a live telecast must have prior approval from the AZCFL. Any radio station desiring to broadcast any game, live or delayed, must contact the league president to secure permission to broadcast. All requests for space should be done through the league commissioner or league marketing coordinator. The league reserves the right to discontinue broadcasting of any station, at any time, if such broadcast is considered by the League to be in poor taste or incompatible with the association. There shall not be any destructive criticism of the game or game officials and their decisions either directly or indirectly. The rights to any future use for commercial purpose(s) or distribution of any photos, videotapes, or radio broadcasts connected with these games, are reserved by the AZCFL.

The AZCFL recognizes that the internet provides unique opportunities to participate in interactive discussions and share information on topics using a wide variety of social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, blogs and wikis. However, use of social media can pose risks to confidential and proprietary information, reputation and brands, and can jeopardize the compliance with business rules and laws. If your post would violate any of the AZCFL's policies in another forum, it will also violate them in an online forum. Anyone under AZCFL contract who violates AZCFL policies will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of contract and league dismissal. The AZCFL prohibits you from posting disparaging or defamatory statements about the league/teams/players or its interest and you should also avoid social media communications that might be misconstrued in a way that could damage the league's goodwill and business reputation, even indirectly.

***AZCFL has a Zero Tolerance Policy toward Drugs and Alcohol at AZCFL events.*** You will be asked to leave the premises and will be expelled from the league. No smoking/drinking at games, in the parking lot, during game preparation and including game closing.

Summary of Violations/League Action

**VIOLATIONS**

**PENALTY/ FEE**

**Team Disturbance/Fight (2 or more players from the same team, details in by-laws)**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Current game and next game Forfeit/\$500 team fine  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – A team will be suspended for the remainder of the season and board will review for further action/\$1000 team fine

**Taunting**

Taunting the opposing team, staff, and/or players will not be tolerated by the person who instigates it or the person who retaliates, both can be ejected.

**Alcohol use/Intoxicated Players**

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**Use of an ineligible player**

Team will forfeit and the League will review for further action. Teams using players that are not on their roster will receive a forfeit and may be removed from the league.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct of Spectators**

On duty game league represented will be notified and take action at their discretion.

**Dress code violations**

Players will be given an opportunity to remove said garment or will not play the game. Game helmets, pants, and jerseys must match on game day or players will not play the game.

**Ejection for Profanity, Foul language, and/or Offensive Gesturing, Throwing Helmets**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - One game suspension  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - Two game suspension  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - Suspension for the remainder of season

**Threatening an official**

Threatening a referee will automatically result in a 1-game suspension. The referees have the right to call the game if they are threatened and engage league representative.

**Player Fighting**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - One game suspension, and \$100 Player fine  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - Suspension for the remainder of season

**Ejections**

Any players that are ejected from a game, that is not outlined in Players Code of Conduct or league bylaws, the league will determine disciplinary action.

**Threats**

Referees must be immediately notified if any threats are made. Referees must notify coaches of both teams when threats are made. If threats continue, the player is ejected, and the police are called.

Threats made to any person's life will result in the police being called and the offender will be banned from the AZCFL for life.

**Social Media**

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Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Team Owner Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

