



CODE OF CONDUCT

To maintain the integrity of youth football, which is based on teamwork, discipline, respect, commitment and good sportsmanship, the following are to be observed and obeyed by all. One of the goals of the South Suburban Youth Football League (SSYFL) program is to provide a safe and fun learning environment for the youth of our communities. We strive to create an opportunity for our kids to work together as a team toward common goals. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for authority figures (officials and coaches), players and other spectators. SSYFL and member associations will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its coaches, game officials, players, or parents and spectators. Parents and spectators, just as players and coaches, are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct described here at all SSYFL events. While most of the adults and children in the program will abide by this code without being instructed, it is being published to protect the children, the integrity of our program and to emphasize the values of the SSYFL.

I hereby pledge to live up to the SSYFL Players and Parents Guidelines by following the listed code of ethics:

As a parent or spectator, I will:

- **I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.**
- Support the coaches, players and/or cheerleaders and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play;
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Support my child's team and help my child and SSYFL make athletic contests a positive and educational experience;
- I will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.
- Direct constructive criticism of my child's team's program to the head coach and/or SSYFL Board members at an appropriate time. I will work towards a positive result for all concerned;
- Accept decisions of the game officials (including coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials are in charge of all games and their decisions are final;
- Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times;
- Emphasize to my child that good athletes strive to be good students;
- Strive to make every football activity serve as a training ground for life;
- Stay behind the designated spectator line during a game;
- Be responsible for the actions and conduct of any guests that I bring to any SSYFL event.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and 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.



As a parent or spectator, I will not:

- Interfere/interrupt the coaching staff during the games or practices;
- Criticize officials or coaches, direct abuse or profane language toward them or otherwise subvert their authority;
- Criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches or spectators by word of mouth, by gesture or by deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike behavior
- In any way, at any SSYFL game or practice or any SSYFL event, conduct myself in a manner which fails to demonstrate good sportsmanship and compliance with the spirit of this Code of Conduct.

Consequences of Behavior

- At any SSYFL event, any adult who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude to, or does not control his/her language or actions with a player, official, coach, spectator, will be asked by a SSYFL Board member to regain their composure or leave the event. If the spectator fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove the spectator.
- Any adult that conducts themselves in a manner not consistent with the spirit of this Code of Conduct may be banned from SSYFL events for the remainder of the season and any future season.
- Any adult who physically assaults an official, coach, SSYFL Board member, player, participant, or another spectator will be banned from the SSYFL. After one year, the parent may apply for reinstatement. SSYFL may, at its discretion, lift the ban (however additional action may be taken by the host association). The term physical assault includes, but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.

Note: This Code of Conduct is not meant to supersede the rules set by any single association, but rather to set a baseline for conduct.