

SPORT PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Few youth sports programs are successful without the support of parents. In the effort to provide a positive athletic environment for the youth, coaches, officials and spectators of Fairfield, below is the *Fairfield Recreation Sport Parent Code of Conduct*. As a parent we ask that you abide by the rules and guidelines established. Please read the following Sport Parent Code of Conduct.

I therefore agree:

- 1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- 2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- 3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- 4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league
- 5. I (and my guest) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- 6. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hand; or using profane language or gestures.
- 7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
- 8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- 9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- 10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- 11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
- 12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- 13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition.
- 14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- 15. I will respect the officials & coaches and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront officials & coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- 16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at sports events.
- 17. I will refrain from on field coaching of my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I may be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- * Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or Recreation Dept. representative
- * Game forfeit through the official or coach
- * Written warning from Recreation Dept.
- * Parental game suspension
- * Parental season suspension

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PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

The Fairfield Recreation Commission is proud of our recreation programs and to keep them at this high standard we want you to be aware of what you should do if a problem occurs.

Note: If questions/concerns arise, consult with your coach. If issue is unresolved or of a serious nature, refer to policy.

- I. An individual who has a complaint regarding any volunteer of a Recreation Program must notify the Department of Recreation, in writing. All complaints will be investigated.
- II. An individual with a complaint can verbally notify a Recreation Commissioner or the Director of Recreation (973-882-2745) of the incident, but must adhere to #1

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**FAIRFIELD RECREATION COMMISSION
SELECTION OF VOLUNTEER COACHES POLICY**

In order to select the best possible candidates to coach our community's children in our recreation sports programs in a systematic manner, the Recreation Commission will select volunteer coaches in the following manner:

- 1. First and foremost, the Recreation Commission reserves the right to select from the list of applicants for volunteer coaching positions the person (s) deemed best suited by a majority vote for a given sports program. Criteria that may affect selection include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:
 - a. Breach of ethical conduct that is known to the Commission
 - b. Significant experience in the sport selected apart from the recreation program
 - c. A significant record of complaints made against an individual in their capacity as a coach that has resulted in an accumulation over time of letters of reprimand
 - d. Substantiated information known to the Commission regarding an individual's conduct as a coach that has not resulted in an accumulation of letters of reprimand, but may render another individual more appropriate in a coaching position
 - e. The absence of a child participating in the level of a program selected for coaching by an individual in order to prevent recycling of coaches into programs and / or the reservation of a given program for an individual volunteer
 - f. Other disciplinary action taken by the Commission against an individual in their capacity as a coach that resulted in the loss of some or all seniority.
- 2. If none of the foregoing conditions pertain to the individuals applying for coaching positions in the recreation programs, seniority will be the basis for selection of head coaches and assistant coaches according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Seniority can be used in an individual's first choice for a particular sports program.
 - b. If an individual's first choice is the same sport and position within a particular sport from the previous year, he or she is eligible to return to the same position for the upcoming season.
 - c. If a tie occurs regarding seniority in a program, selection will be based upon the total overall years of volunteer coaching in all programs combined. If this method also results in a tie, selection will be made by a lottery system.
- 3. The Commissioner(s) designated as responsible for personnel issues will, with the participation of the Director, prepare the list of applicants for volunteer coaching positions for a given sport (which list will include the sport name, the league/level, the names of the volunteers and their seniority) for presentation to the Recreation Commission when coaching selection is placed on the agenda. At such meeting all necessary records and documentation regarding volunteer coaches will be available to the Commissioners.
- 4. The Fairfield Recreation Commission will be the arbitrator of interpretation of all statements set forth above.
- 5. All Fairfield Recreation Coaches must have their Background Check completed and qualified for coaching. Also coaches must have completed NYSCA initial and sports specific certification and be a full-time Fairfield resident or a parent of a full time resident registered child.
- 6. After selection and approval of all items listed in #5 above, a photo ID tag will be issued at the Fairfield Recreation Department and must be displayed by all Coaches at practices and games.

CHEERING VOLUNTEER COACHES 2008 SELECTION FORM - PLEASE COMPLETE

Position Interest _____ League/Level _____
Print your full name _____ Telephone # _____
Work # _____ Cell # _____
Email _____
Sign your full name _____ Date _____

Without a doubt, the single most important aspect of a successful program are the volunteer coaches. It is characteristic of our community spirit that so many have so willingly shared their talent and time with our children. With expanding participation, we are always in need of volunteers for our programs. If you feel you can help in any phase of our program, or if you have any comments or suggestions, please come in and talk with us.