

PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

The City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation department provides a safe and balanced learning environment for players of all abilities that develops athletic skills, character, sportsmanship, and teamwork for youth through their participation in recreational sports.

The City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation department promotes the physical, social, and emotional development of youth participants. It is essential for parents, coaches, and officials to encourage young athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. All adults involved in youth sporting events should be models of good sportsmanship and lead by example demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control.

As a parent or guardian of a Parks and Recreation player, I pledge to be responsible for my (and any other parent, guardian, or guests of my child) words and actions while attending, coaching, or participating in a youth sporting event. I shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for the youth participants, not adults.
2. I (and my guests) 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 events.
3. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any City of Lincoln staff, official(s), coach(es), player(s), or parent(s) such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; verbal or physical threats; or using profane language or gestures.
4. I will not engage or encourage my child or any other person to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official, City of Lincoln staff or any other attendee.
5. I will treat, and ensure my child treats, any coach, parent, player, participant, official, City of Lincoln staff or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, game play or ability.
6. I will not initiate and will not tolerate my child initiating a verbal or physical fight, abuse, negative comments or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official, staff or any other attendee.
7. I will not embarrass my child by calling attention to them through loud or rude behavior.
8. I will encourage my child to practice good sportsmanship.
9. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
10. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of all the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
11. I will respect the staff and official's authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches or City of Lincoln staff at the game, and will take time to speak with coaches privately at an agreed upon time and place if I have an issue or concern.
12. I will help ensure that each child plays in a safe and healthy environment, leave food and beverages outside the gym (if applicable), help pick up trash, and notify coaches or staff of noticeable playing hazards.
13. I will assure the environment is free from tobacco products, drugs, and alcohol at all youth sporting events.
14. I will accept decisions of officials as being fair and performed to the best of their ability. I will refrain from criticizing any of the above verbally or by gesture. I will never go onto the court/field while the game is in progress to dispute a call and allow any questions or rule interpretations to be handled appropriately by the coaches, staff and officials during time-outs/between halves or each quarter.



I hereby agree that if I (or other parent, guardian, or guests of my child) fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, or participating in a City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation youth sporting event, I and/or my child will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal or written warning issued by a league, City of Lincoln organization or a City of Lincoln official who is authorized to issue such warning.
2. Suspension or immediate ejection from a City of Lincoln event issued by a league, City of Lincoln organization or a City of Lincoln official who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection.
3. Suspension from multiple City of Lincoln events issued by a league, City of Lincoln organization or a City of Lincoln official who is authorized to issue such suspension.
4. One season, multiple season or permanent suspension issued by a league, City of Lincoln organization or a City of Lincoln official who is authorized to issue such suspension.

The City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation department maintains a "ZERO Tolerance" policy and strictly enforces the above penalties for any verbal or physical abuse of players, umpires, managers, coaches, City of Lincoln staff or any other league volunteer occurring in connection with league sponsored games or at facilities. Any violation of this policy will result in immediate suspension from City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation facilities. The Director of Parks and Recreation reviews all such incidents and may impose additional disciplinary action for such acts.

**The registration of your child(ren) and allowing them to participate in City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation activities constitutes full agreement to the terms of this
"Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct."**