



WEST JERSEY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

★ COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT ★

The West Jersey Youth Football League ("WJYFL") expects the highest standards of conduct from its players, coaches, officials, and spectators. To establish clear and consistent expectations throughout the League, all coaches are required to review and acknowledge this Coaches Code of Conduct.

For purposes of this document, "Coach" includes Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Team Managers, and any other individual serving in an elected or appointed position of authority within a participating program. All Coaches are expected to be familiar with and comply with the WJYFL By-Laws, League rules, and this Code of Conduct.

1. WITH REGARD TO MY PLAYERS

I understand and accept that my role as a coach is to contribute to the overall development, success, physical well-being, and athletic growth of each player through participation in youth football.

- ☐ I will strive to be a positive role model and effective instructor for my players.
- ☐ I understand that the safety and welfare of my players take priority over the outcome of any game.
- ☐ I will promote a healthy perspective on competition and winning.
- ☐ I am responsible for understanding and competing within both the letter and spirit of the rules of the game.
- ☐ I will teach my players to understand and follow both the letter and spirit of the rules.

2. WITH REGARD TO OPPOSING TEAMS

I understand that the conduct of my team can have a positive or negative influence on the players, coaches, officials, and spectators with whom we compete.

- ☐ I will strive to make my team a positive example of sportsmanship and respect.
- ☐ I will show sportsmanship and shake the opposing coaches' hands before and after the game.
- ☐ I will not coach, encourage, or permit my players to intentionally cause injury to opposing players.
- ☐ Neither I, my players, nor the spectators supporting my team will display hostile or threatening behavior toward opposing players.
- ☐ Neither I, my players, nor our spectators will make negative, insulting, or disrespectful comments toward any member or spectator of the opposing team.
- ☐ I will emphasize the importance of winning with humility and accepting defeat without bitterness.

3. WITH REGARD TO REFEREES

I recognize that referees, like coaches and players, are doing their best to perform their roles and make decisions in accordance with the rules of the game.

- ☐ I will instill in my players and spectators respect for referees and their role in the game.
- ☐ I understand that my attitude and behavior can directly influence my players and spectators.
- ☐ I will maintain a controlled, respectful, and professional attitude toward referees at all times.
- ☐ Neither I, my players, nor our spectators will address a referee before, during, or after a game in a demeaning, threatening, or disrespectful manner.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and the spectators supporting their team on their side of the field, particularly as it relates to referees, coaches, players, and spectators from the opposing team.

Verbal, social media, and/or physical abuse will not be tolerated.

Social media threats, taunts, complaints, harassment, or other hostile or inappropriate conduct will be treated in the same manner as inappropriate game-day conduct and may be subject to disciplinary action by the League.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- ☐ I understand that I am required to obtain a valid coaches' card by attending the mandatory coaches' class.
- ☐ I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the WJYFL Coaches Code of Conduct, WJYFL By-Laws, and applicable League rules.
- ☐ I understand that failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to game suspension and/or suspension or termination of my rights to participate as a Coach in the WJYFL.
- ☐ I understand that I am responsible for promoting these standards of conduct among my players and team spectators.

AGE DIVISION:

TEAM NAME:

COACH NAME (PRINT):

☐ HEAD COACH ☐ ASSISTANT COACH

COACH'S SIGNATURE:

DATE: _____