

LAWRENCE PARKS AND RECREATION
Participant Code of Conduct Policy

I. OBJECTIVE:

To provide an opportunity for all adults to play sports in an organized manner while stressing fair play and sportsmanship by giving adequate time and place to pursue leisurely activities. All players, coaches, managers, and spectators are expected to act in an acceptable manner during the entire program. Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to take any disciplinary action it deems appropriate against players, coaches, managers, and spectators not acting in an acceptable manner, including, but not limited to suspension from games, expulsion from the park and participation in any future programs.

II. PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS:

- A. Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not
- B. Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-control
- C. Respect the rights and privileges of other participants and staff
- D. Respect City of Lawrence property and the property of others
- E. Cooperate with and assist the staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline
- F. Respect the game officials even when you disagree with their calls
- G. Respect Parks and Recreation staff, facility rules and program regulations being enforced
- H. Be mindful of your conduct. Make sure no action occurs that could reflect badly on yourself or your team

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS:

- A. Failure to conform to program rules, regulations and ordinances
- B. Involvement in any instance or form of insubordination
- C. Use of profanity, vulgar language or obscene gestures
- D. Defacing and/or damaging City property or the property of others
- E. Engaging in inappropriate physical or verbal contact
- F. Involvement with drugs, alcohol, smoking or weapons
- G. Inappropriate action of even one player can reflect upon your entire team

III. MISCONDUCT VIOLATIONS/PENALTY LEVELS:

A. **LEVEL I**

Minimum Penalty: Verbal warning, official may remove individual from game.

Maximum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus eight (8) day or one (1) game suspension and probation for the remainder of season.

No Participant Shall:

1. Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's judgement (ex: throwing playing equipment, stare down tactics or any other intimidating/forceful action)
2. Discuss with an official, in any manner, the judgment reached by an official except the manager, coach, or captain.
3. Be involved in any "trash" talking on or off the playing field/court.
4. Drink alcoholic beverages during the game
5. Discuss publically with spectators in a derogatory manner any play, judgment, or personal opinion of other individuals.
6. Mingle with or fraternize with spectators during the course of the game in a way that negatively affects the game in any way.
7. Permit anyone to remain in the dugout or on the player's bench, unless an active team member (ex: manager, coach, player and/or scorekeeper)
8. Leave behind excessive trash on or off the playing field/court.
9. Operate music/noise devices at a volume that will disturb others.

LEVEL II

Minimum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus eight (8) day or one (1) game suspension and probation for remainder of season.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for one (1) year and/or assault charges filed.

No Participant Shall:

1. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any individual on or off the playing field/court. (Excessive could fall into level III or IV)
2. Use profane, obscene or vulgar language/behavior, in any manner, at any time, on or off the playing field/court.
3. Unnecessary rough tactics in the play of game. (Intentional/flagrant action could fall into level III or IV)
4. Play under another individual's name, falsify name, or falsify signature on official entry, line-up, roster or program forms.
5. Violate Level I of Participant Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

LEVEL III

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for one (1) year and/or criminal charges filed.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from all Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department activities for one (1) year (team and/or individual), probation for two (2) additional years and/or criminal charges filed.

No Participant Shall:

1. Appear on the field/court of play, at any time, in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of any other type of drug which will infringe upon the individual's safety or the safety of others.
2. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any official or City Staff on or off the playing field/court.
3. Use excessive profane, obscene, or vulgar language/behavior, in any manner, at any time, on or off the playing field/court.
4. Directly or indirectly threaten another individual including officials and/or City staff.
5. Attempt to damage, destroy or steal City property and/or property of others.
6. Violate Level I/II of the Participant Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

LEVEL IV

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from all Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department activities for one (1) year (team and/or individual), probation for two (2) additional years and/or criminal charges filed.

Maximum Penalty: Life suspension from all Lawrence Parks and Recreation activities and/or criminal charges filed.

Team Penalty: If two (2) or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above.

No Participant Shall:

1. Lay a hand upon, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official or individual.
2. Be guilty of a physical attack upon any official or individual.
3. Be guilty of damaging, destroying, or stealing City property.
4. Be guilty of possessing and/or using altered equipment (balls, bats, etc.)
5. Gamble upon any play or the outcome of the game with other spectators, player, manager, coach, or opponent.
6. Violate Level I/II/III Participant Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

B. SUSPENDED PARTICIPANT(S):

1. If a participant is ejected during the game the suspension is for the remainder of the current game and for all games/programs for the next eight (8) days or next playable game. Suspended participants are not allowed to attend any game for that period of which they are suspended. The participant must remain off the premises for this period or further discipline can be taken.

2. Suspended participants must remove themselves within two (2) minutes from the confines of the facility (park or gym), or the area designated by the official or staff.
3. If the suspended participant does not remove themselves immediately, their teammates or coaches are responsible for their removal or a forfeit will be called.

C. MANAGERS/TEAM RESPONSIBILITY:

1. Managers will be responsible to see that all their players and spectators know and abide by the rules/regulations and the Participant Code of Conduct, before, during and after games.
2. Managers shall be the official representative of the team and spectators unless they designate one of the players as the team captain prior to the game. Only the manager and/or designated team captain may discuss a call or judgment made by the official(s).
3. Team penalties may be imposed if multiple individuals, from the same team, violate this code of conduct.
4. Managers/Coaches may also have penalties imposed on them for their team's/player's actions.

D. SPECIAL NOTE:

1. Any and all situations not specifically covered in the Participant Code of Conduct, shall be acted upon by the game official(s), site supervisor(s), league supervisor, or other City staff. All such actions shall be the basis for similar situations and such rulings shall be final and become part of the Participant Code of Conduct.
2. Participants, who feel justified to appeal any judgment that pertains to the Participant Code of Conduct, must abide by the judgment at the time of enforcement. Participant(s) may submit, no later than 24 hours after the incident, a typed protest to the Program Supervisor at Sports Pavilion Lawrence (100 Rock Chalk Lane) or emailed to adultsports@lawrenceks.org.
3. By participating all players, coaches, and managers attest that they have read and understand this Participant Code of Conduct. They further agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.