



Clayton Parks and Recreation **Coaches' Code of Conduct**

1. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.

Expected Behavior:

- Using appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators.
- Include all players in team activities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, body type, national origin, ancestry, disability, ability, or any other legally protected classification.
- Treat all players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators with dignity and respect.
- Play all players according to the participation rules established by the league and the spirit of those rules.
- Encourage youth to participate in other sports and activities to promote all aspects of their development.
- Allow reasonable absences from practice.

2. I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

Expected Behavior:

- Recognize the differences between each child and treat each player as an individual while demonstrating concern for their individual needs and well-being.
- Encourage all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as a member of the team and to remain involved in sports.
- Recognize that some physical tasks, drills, and demands are not appropriate for all youth.
- Recognize that youth may vary greatly in physical, social, and emotional maturation and consider these factors when setting up competitions and when interacting with youth.

3. I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

Expected Behavior:

- Maintain a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions.
- Protect players from sexual molestation, assault and physical or emotional abuse.
- Correct and avoid unsafe practice or playing conditions.
- Using appropriate safety equipment is necessary to protect all players.
- See that the players are provided with adequate adult supervision while under the coach's care.

4. I promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

Expected Behavior:

- Recognize and administer proper first aid to an injured player.
- Demonstrate concern for an injured player, notifying parents, and cooperating with medical authorities.
- Get Clayton Parks and Recreation Employee to apply first aid when needed.
- Protect the players' well-being by removing them from activity when injured and not returning them to activity if they are compromised by injury.

5. I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

Expected Behavior:

- Establish practice plans that are interesting, varied, and productive. Practice needs to be aimed at improving all players' skills and individual abilities.
- Devote appropriate time for the individual improvement of each player.
- Conduct practices of reasonable length and intensity appropriate for the age and conditioning of the players.

6. I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.

Expected Behavior:

- Adopt the position, teaching and demonstrating that it is our basic moral code to treat others, as we would like to be treated.
- Abide by and support the rules of the game as well as the spirit of the rules.
- Provide an environment conducive to fair and equitable competition.
- Using the influential position of youth coach as an opportunity to promote, teach and expect sportsmanship and fair play.

7. I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all Town of Clayton youth sports events.

Expected Behavior:

- Be alcohol and drug free at all team activities or in the presence of players.
- Refrain from the use of any type of tobacco products at all team activities or in the presence of your players.
- Refrain from providing any type of alcohol, drug, or tobacco products to any of your players.
- Encourage parents to refrain from the public use of tobacco products or alcohol at team activities.

8. I will be knowledgeable about the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.

Expected Behavior:

- Become knowledgeable, understanding, and supportive of all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations, and policies.
- Teach and require compliance with these rules among players.

9. I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.

Expected behavior:

- Teaching techniques that reduce the risk of injury to both the coach's own players and their opponents.
- Discouraging illegal contact or intentional dangerous play and administering swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

10. I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

Expected Behavior:

- Maintain a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude.
- Exercise your authority/influence to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
- Exhibit gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Accept and adhere to all league rules and policies related to the participation of adults and youth.
- Fulfill the expected role of a youth coach to adopt a "children first" philosophy.
- Allow and encourage the players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.
- Place the emphasis on fun and participation.

11. I will support and encourage participation of individuals with all ability levels. Inclusion support services provided by the Clayton Parks and Recreation Department include but not limited to:

- Interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing
- Improved signage
- Activity modification
- Staff training
- Accessible equipment and facility features

Coaches Signature: _____

Date: _____

Coaches Name Printed: _____