



**LEMONT PARK DISTRICT
Flag Football Rec League
Player and Parent Manual**

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- Practice schedules will be available along with field locations by volunteer coaches.
- The Season starts on September 7th and ends on October 26th.
- Make-Up games, due to weather, will be based on availability but are not guaranteed.
- Players must wear black sports pants/shorts and wear rubber cleats (no metal cleats).

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Children are expected to be at all practices and games.
- Parents are encouraged to attend all games.
- Parents will be responsible for promoting sportsmanship to players, other parents, coaches and officials at all times while at all games and are subject to removal if they display inappropriate behaviors.
- Children must be escorted in and out of the facility for all practices and games.
- All siblings at practices and games MUST BE always supervised by parent.

LEAGUE RULES

THIS LEAGUE FOLLOWS ALL GUIDELINES OF THE NFL FLAG FOOTBALL PROGRAM AS SET FOR IN THE NFL FLAG FOOTBALL OFFICIAL PLAYING RULES MANUAL. THIS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE PARENT AND PLAYER MANUAL.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

Behavior

All participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to help make programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. Additional rules may be developed for specific programs as deemed necessary by staff.

The agency insists that all participants comply with a basic behavior code. All participants shall:

1. Show respect to all participants, staff, and volunteers. Participants should follow program rules and take direction from staff.
2. Refrain from using abusive or foul language.
3. Refrain from threatening or causing bodily harm to self, other participants, or staff.
4. Show respect for equipment, supplies, and facilities.

The following infractions will constitute utilization of the discipline procedures.

1. Harming oneself, such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Leaving grounds without permission.
 - b. Leaving designated group without permission.
 - c. Climbing on objects that are not recommended by staff.
 - d. Physical damage to self.
 - e. Possession, use or transfer of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco or tobacco products.
2. Harming others such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Fighting
 - b. Throwing objects at or near others.
 - c. Bringing or using weapons, i.e., knives, glass, sharp objects, etc.
 - d. Hitting, kicking or biting others.
 - e. Extreme verbal abuse.
 - f. Profanity.
 - g. Showing disrespect to other participants and staff.
 - h. Other aggressive behavior including any verbal or physical bullying.
3. Damage to Property
 - a. Vandalism.
 - b. Tantrums resulting in damage to property.
 - c. Breaking, damaging or destroying property.
4. Theft
 - a. Taking any item that does not belong to the child.

Discipline

A positive approach will be used regarding discipline. Staff will periodically review rules with participants during the program session. If inappropriate behavior occurs, a prompt resolution will be sought specific to each individual's situation. The park district reserves the right to dismiss a participant whose behavior endangers his or her own safety or the safety of others.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

Upon registration or entry into the program, the parent/guardian should communicate any information regarding special accommodations needed for the participant. If any of these special accommodations are behavior related, the parent/guardian should be contacted for information about any behavior modification programs in place at school or home. Attempts should be made to utilize these in the program. Also, the inclusion coordinator from the Special Recreation Association (SRA) should be contacted for guidance. Documentation should be maintained regarding any problem behaviors, special accommodations, and behavior modification programs.

If the participant exhibits inappropriate actions, the following guidelines should be followed:

1. Program leaders should determine the severity of the action and immediately take steps to correct it. These may include but are not limited to:
 - i. **Verbal Warnings:** Verbal warnings will be given for actions. More than one verbal warning may be given depending on severity of action.
 - ii. **Time-Outs:** A supervised time-out from the program. The parent/guardian will be notified by the Program Manager and written documentation will be provided. The type of time-out may vary according to the situation (observational: from sidelines of activity; exclusion: away from the group but within view of the activity; seclusion: time-out area with staff member present away from view of the activity). If physical restraint is used to protect against injury, the time-out should be documented on an incident report and given to the full-time manager.
 - iii. **Written Documentation:** Written documentation will be sent home to a parent or guardian, or the participant if he or she is an adult, to be signed and returned. The parent/participant will also be called by the Program Manager.
 - iv. **Program Suspension:** The participant will be suspended from the program for up to three days. The suspension will be in effect the first day following the offense. The parent/participant will be notified by the Program Manager and

written documentation will be provided. When determining the timeframes of suspension, staff should consider the severity of the actions; the length of the program or activity; any past behavior issues with the individual; and willingness to improve their inappropriate behavior.

- v. **Program Dismissal:** Depending on the situation and the severity of the offense, the participant may be permanently dismissed from the program following any offense.
2. Communication between staff and parent should be ongoing regarding any further incidences of inappropriate behavior. Some other options may be discussed with the parent/guardian including:
 - i. Transfer to another program where inappropriate behavior may be less prone to occur.
 - ii. Limited/reduced timeframe that participant is allowed to attend the program.
 3. Appeals by the participant and/or participant's parent/guardian should be directed to the Executive Director or the Director of Recreation.

When to Contact the Police:

- If a participant makes a direct threat of hurting himself, call the parent/guardian immediately.
- If a parent/guardian is not available, call the police.
- If a participant becomes overly aggressive and violent, call the police.

FLAG FOOTBALL PARENT/PLAYER MANUAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Fall Season

My information and signature below confirm that I have received, read, understand, and agree to abide by the standards set forth by the Lemont Park District Recreational Flag Football League Manual. I have also received the concussion information sheet.

Date

Division/Age Group

Player's Name/Print

Player's Signature

Parent Name/Print

Parent's Signature