Code of Conduct

Recreational programs and sports are supposed to be fun. Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have lasting emotional effects on everyone. Too many children are leaving sports activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults.

Carroll County Recreation and Parks has adopted the following Code of Conduct as a result of its concern for good sportsmanship. All coaches, players and parents must abide by our Code of Conduct. Violations of this code must be reported to the appropriate Recreation Council. The Council will notify the Office of Recreation and Parks of all reported violations of the Code of Conduct. Each violation will be fully investigated and enforced according to the Carroll County Recreation and Parks Good Sportsmanship Policy.

Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct

I will as a parent acknowledge the importance of being involved in my child's recreational activities.

I will introduce myself to my child's volunteer coach/leader and will exchange pertinent contact information.

I will know who is transporting my child to and from any recreational activity.

I will know my child's schedule- practice days, date and schedules.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to succeed.

I will provide support for coaches and leaders working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all participants.

I will treat other participants, spectators and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.

I will respect the decisions of officials and encourage players to do so as well.

I will applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals, regardless of which team they represent.

I will never ridicule players for making mistakes. I will recognize the benefit of positive comments as a motivational tool.

I will condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coaches, officials or players.

I will not use foul language or harass players, coaches or officials.

I will demand an environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all events.

Coaches Code of Conduct

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

I will attend all meetings and rules clinics set up by the Department or program prior to the beginning of each sport season.

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

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

I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat player injuries properly.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Players Code of Conduct

I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.

I will attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify my coach if I cannot attend.

I will expect to receive a fair and equal amount of playing time.

I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.

I will treat my coaches, other players, officials and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.

I will have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun.

I will expect to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and expect adults to refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.

I will remember that a sport is an opportunity to learn and have fun.

Recreation & Parks
Carroll County, MD

Procedure for Administration of the Good Sportsmanship Policy

Carroll County Recreation and Parks has adopted a policy for unsportsmanlike conduct in its recreational programs. The Bureau of Recreation along with all Recreation Council programs and their associated volunteers has the responsibility to regulate and enforce this policy.

It is the responsibility of the Recreation Council to administer the rules and regulations of this policy in accordance with the procedures outlined below:

Recreation Council will: Review all reports, interview necessary parties, schedule necessary meetings, assess penalties and refer to the Department when appropriate.
It is the responsibility of the Council to immediately implement the penalties set forth in the Code of Conduct up to and including suspensions.
It is also the responsibility of the Council to inform the involved party and all of the coaches of the infraction of the penalty that is being instituted.

Coach will: Notify the League Director, program President, in writing, of all infractions of the Code of Conduct within 24 hours of the infraction in question. This includes, but is not limited to, infractions brought to the attention of the coaches by the game official. Insist that any participant suspended from a game by the official immediately leave the field of play or any area where the participant's presence might in any way disrupt the remainder of the activity.

Officials will: Report any incident to the Recreation Council. It is expected that the Official will submit these reports of violations of the Code of Conduct within 24 hours of the incident.

Recreation Councils/Presidents: The Council is required to submit all reports of any incident involving the violation of the Code of Conduct, along with their own report to the Bureau of Recreation within 48 hours of the incident. This is not limited to violation reported by officials.

Carroll County Recreation and Parks will: Investigate all reported violations of the Code of Conduct. Review all Council implemented disciplinary action. Administer the Appeal Process.

Disciplinary Action and Appeals: The participant involved will remain suspended from activities until the incident has been reviewed and a decision has been rendered by the Recreation Council. The Recreation Council will not review any incident until it has received reports from officials, coaches and/or Associations Directors. Any disciplinary action implemented by the Recreation Council will go into effect immediately. If the disciplinary action involves suspension, that suspension may carry on to the following season or to the next activity. The notice of disciplinary action will be made in writing to the violator and will be forwarded to him/her via registered mail. Violations involving physical violence, refusal to obey the lawful orders of officials, and any requiring Police assistance will be grounds for permanent expulsion for the violator. Any criminal act will be reported immediately to law enforcement agencies for possible prosecution. Any person receiving disciplinary action from the Recreation Council may appeal that ruling to the Carroll County Recreation and Parks within two (2) weeks of the date the violator received notice of the disciplinary action from the Council. Any person may request a copy of the Code of Conduct appeals process for further information.

My signature indicates that I fully understand the Carroll County Recreation and Parks Code of Conduct Policy.

Printed Name _____

Signature_____Date:_____