



PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaches – Please see Page 3.

Overview

Montgomery County Recreation (MCR) provides a safe and balanced learning environment for players of all abilities that develops athletic skills, character, sportsmanship, and teamwork for youth through their participation in recreational sports.

Montgomery County Recreation (MCR) promotes the physical, social and emotional development of youth participants. It is essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage young athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. All adults involved in youth sporting events should be models of good sportsmanship and lead by example demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

As a parent or guardian of a MCR player, I pledge to be responsible for my (and any other parent, guardian or guests of my child) words and actions while attending, coaching or participating in a youth sporting event. I shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for the youth participants, not adults.
2. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting events.
3. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any MCR staff, official(s), coach(es), player(s), or parent(s) such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; verbal or physical threats; or using profane language or gestures.
4. I will not engage, or encourage my child or any other person to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official, MCR staff or any other attendee.
5. I will treat, and ensure my child treats, any coach, parent, player, participant, official, MCR staff or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, game play or ability.
6. I will not initiate, and will not tolerate my child initiating a verbal or physical fight, abuse, negative comments or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official, staff or any other attendee.
7. I will not embarrass my child by calling attention to him/her through loud or rude behavior.
8. I will encourage my child to practice good sportsmanship.
9. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
10. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of all the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
11. I will respect the staff and official's authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches or MCR staff at the game, and will take time to speak with coaches privately at an agreed upon time and place if I have an issue or concern.

12. I will help ensure that each child plays in a safe and healthy environment, leave food and beverages outside the gym (if applicable), help pick up trash, and notify coaches or staff of noticeable playing hazards.
13. I will assure the environment is free from tobacco products, drugs and alcohol at all youth sporting events.
14. I will accept decisions of officials as being fair and performed to the best of their ability. I will refrain from criticizing any of the above verbally or by gesture. I will never go onto the court/field while the game is in progress to dispute a call and allow any questions or rule interpretations to be handled appropriately by the coaches, staff and officials during time-outs/between halves or each quarter.

I hereby agree that if I (or other parent, guardian, or guests of my child) fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, or participating in a MCR youth sporting event, I and/or my child will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by a league, MCR organization or a MCR official who is authorized to issue such warning.
2. Written warning issued by a league, MCR organization or a MCR official who is authorized to issue such warning.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a MCR event issued by a league, MCR organization or a MCR official who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection.
4. Suspension from multiple MCR events issued by a league, MCR organization or a MCR official who is authorized to issue such suspension.
5. One season, multiple season or permanent suspension issued by a league, MCR organization or a MCR official who is authorized to issue such suspension.

If a spectator is ejected for these or any reason, as dictated by the league rules, he/she may not attend the next two (2) games at a minimum. If a spectator is ejected a second time or acts out physically towards another individual, he/she will not be allowed to attend any Montgomery County Recreation Sports activities for a minimum one (1) year from the date of the incident. If such action is taken, the individual must meet with the league director prior to returning to any event. In addition, the head coach present at the game will be suspended for at least one (1) game.

******Montgomery County Recreation reserves the right to conduct a closed sporting event, to include only players, coaches, MCR staff and officials, if spectator behavior becomes a distraction and/or unsafe for all.***

COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS



It shall be the duty of each Coach to:

1. Comply with the philosophy, policies and procedures of Montgomery County Recreation. Respect all employees and volunteers involved in the program. Please remember that each coach is a representative of Montgomery County Recreation.
2. Encourage and compliment players when they show improvement, play with extra effort, or simply need kind words. Do not unduly criticize players in front of spectators or other players. Criticism should be constructive in nature. Remember, these are young athletes who are still learning.
3. Abide by a doctor's decision in all matters of players' health, injuries, and ability to play.
4. Not allow a player to enter or re-enter a game if there is any doubt as to the seriousness of an injury.
5. Exhibit good sportsmanship by refraining from rude or abusive language, actions or gestures.
6. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating respect and positive support for all players, coaches, officials, staff, and other spectators at every game and practice.
7. Accept decisions of officials as being fair and performed to the best of their ability. A coach must never go onto the court/field while the game is in progress to dispute a call. Any questions or rule interpretations should be handled during time-outs/stoppages in a proper manner.
8. Assist in maintaining a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free environment by refraining from their use at all practices and games.
9. Be responsible for ensuring that players on his/her team and team parents/spectators are aware and understand the Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct listed above.
10. Demonstrate dignity in winning or in losing, recognizing that both offer opportunities for the personal growth of our youth participants.
11. If a coach is ejected, he/she must sit out the following game.

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