

Southwick Recreation Center

Code of Conduct

For Kid's Sake ! - Children's sports are supposed to be fun for the children ! Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sport activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults.

The Southwick Recreation Center Board of Directors have 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 a member of that sport committee/Board of Director Committee member and all reported violations of the "Code of Conduct" will be investigated and enforced as stated in the Southwick Recreation Center's "Zero Tolerance Policy".

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Parents Code of Conduct:

- As a parent, I 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, dates 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.
- My child and I will treat other participants, spectators and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- Parents will respect the decisions of officials and encourage players to do so as well.
- Parents will applaud good performances and efforts from all individuals and the team.
- Never ridicule players for making mistakes. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coach, officials or players.
- Encourage all players to follow the rules and official's decisions.
- Do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches or officials.
- I will demand a sport environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sport events.
- Be a FAN...Not a FANATIC !

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 Southwick Recreation Center 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 injuries of my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead by example in documenting fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain for their use at all youth 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 the adults.

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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.
- 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 deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun !
- I deserve 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 is important to me.
- I will do my very best in school.
- I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn and have fun.