

DRACUT RECREATION CODE OF ETHICS

PARENTS CODE OF ETHICS FOR DRACUT YOUTH SPORTS AND PROGRAMS

I will not force my child to participate in sports.

I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.

I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.

I (and my guests) will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports events.

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

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds to Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will remember that the game is for youth, not adults.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.

I will never yell at or ridicule my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.

I will remember that we are guests in the schools and that it is my responsibility to supervise non-playing children and to dispose of any trash that I bring into the gym.

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

PARTICIPANTS CODE OF ETHICS FOR DRACUT YOUTH SPORTS AND PROGRAMS

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

I will attend every practice and game that I can, and I 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 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 from 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 participation is an opportunity to learn and have fun.

ADDENDUM TO DRACUT RECREATION'S PARENTS AND PARTICIPANT CODE OF ETHICS

The Dracut Recreation Department has been successfully providing safe, age appropriate, and memorable recreational experiences for children for many years. We have been pleased to be able to serve generations of families as well as multiple siblings from the same family. To present, we have been able to serve all the children accepted for our program and have had consistent parental and participant praise for our work. We have every intention of continuing to care for your children with the same concern, interest, and energy as we prepare for our programs. The well-being of your children, both physically as well as emotionally, continues to be our number one priority. In order for us to continue to be successful we need to address the issue of the ever changing, multi-media society, a society where drugs, alcohol, sex and violence have become common place and young people cannot avoid seeing, hearing and absorbing these negative influences. However, what may be acceptable in some homes and communities will not be acceptable in the Dracut Recreation community if we are to continue to care for other people's children with the same concern, interest and commitment to safety as we have in the past. It is essential that you communicate to your children that we will not accept behaviors such as: bullying in any form, fighting, harassment or any other form of violence directed at another person, possession of weapons, repeated profanity, disrespect, bigotry of any form, inappropriate sexual behavior, drug or alcohol use, inappropriate use of electronic devices or any other unsafe behaviors that are potentially harmful to themselves or others. They must understand that a consequence of unacceptable behavior can mean their removal from our program. Our demonstrated interest is to offer only pleasant memories for each participant. It is not our intention to exclude any child. It is important to discuss in detail your expectations for your children and that we are, parents and the recreation management, in total agreement. A child asked to leave our program because of behaviors detailed in this memorandum may not be permitted to return in future programs. There will be no refund of tuitions. In fairness to our all of our staff and volunteers, we need to make informed decisions about all of the young people who are accepted into our programs. Our purpose in having pertinent health information, both physical and emotional, is to better serve each child. We must emphasize and expect that all parents or guardians have provided us with all the necessary information we need to keep all children safe. So please, be honest and open with us. Is there a serious medical problem? Are there organic problems and your child is off medication for any reason? Has your child been hospitalized for physical or emotional reasons recently? Is your child experiencing a traumatic reaction to family issues, such as parental separation, divorce, illness or death in the family? With these facts in mind, we must reserve the right to ask that a child at risk to oneself or other participants be picked up and removed from the program immediately. There may be a circumstance where we have agreed to accept a child with full knowledge of his or her problems and have attempted to take all the necessary steps of making the experience successful but find that we are unable to do so. For the good of this child and the other

children in the program, the child may need to leave. Lastly, we ask that parents and guardians take a very active role in preparing their child for the program you are enrolled in. As caretakers of your children, we accept the responsibility of partnering with you and simply ask for your full cooperation.