



Coach: _____ League: _____

Your child is participating in a youth sports program in West Haven City. Youth sports are supposed to be fun – for the children. Actions by parents, fans, spectators and coaches can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many of today's youth are leaving sports activities because the fun is taken away by adults.

Your role as a parent/spectator has a significant impact on the success of our program. Therefore, West Haven City asks that you fully understand and completely accept the standards of behavior which are detailed below:

WEST HAVEN RECREATION CODE OF CONDUCT

COACH/PLAYER/PARENT/SPECTATOR

1. I will remember that the game is for youth – not for adults.
2. I (and my guests) will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials, and the program at every game, practice, other youth sports event, or on social media.
3. **I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as, booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; verbally or physically making threats; or using profane language or gestures.**
4. I will keep winning in its proper perspective. Is winning important? Of course it is. But values such as fairness, sportsmanship, discipline, and determination are more important in the long run. We suffer for a short while over a loss, but the character growth that comes with learning from losing stays around for life.
5. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning. I will focus on the process of improvement and getting better instead of the outcome and end result. The true value in sport is the journey, what you learn along the way, the tribulations as much as the triumphs.
6. 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.
7. I will do my best to make youth sports fun for my child.
8. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
9. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
10. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
11. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts respectfully, without resorting to hostility or violence.
12. I (and my guests) will respect the coaches and their authority during games. I will not confront coaches at the **game field or court** but will take the time to ask questions or voice concerns at an agreed upon time and place where young players are not present.
13. I (and my guests) will accept all decisions of umpires, referees and game officials as being fair and judged to the best of their ability, regardless of whether I agree with same.
14. I will not enter onto the playing field/court at any time (before, during, or after game) unless an official has given permission to do so.

I realize that if at any time my behavior becomes non-compliant with any of these standards, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal and/or written warning by the head coach, official or Recreation Department.
- Ejection from game or practice site. **Refusal to leave may cause forfeiture of game.**

- One game, multiple game, or indefinite suspension.

DATE: _____

PARTICIPANT NAME: _____ PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____