



## **Article IV – Code of Conduct and Agreement**

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The St. John's Sports Association is committed to the continual development and adherence to a strict code of conduct for players, coaches, administrators, parents and fans.

The code of conduct is essentially a set of guiding principles that are required to develop and maintain an environment whereby our athletes are the focus and the behavior of everyone involved will not detract from the athlete's enjoyment of the sport.

As stated in Article II – Membership, players and coaches will have to read, sign and adhere to the Code of Conduct defined herein.

The following is the code of conduct:

### **COACHES**

Acceptable standards of coaching behavior include:

- (a). Set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior;
- (b). Respect the judgment of officials; abide by the rules of the event;
- (c). Treat opposing coaches, participants and fans with respect;
- (d). Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand they display good sportsmanship;
- (e). Coach in a positive manner – teach, don't correct;

Penalties:

- (a). Any coach ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for the next two (2) games and may be subject to further penalties;
- (b). Any coach who physically abuses another person (player, coach, parent, referee) will be suspended for the remainder of the current season and may be disqualified from further participation in the sports program;



## PLAYERS

Acceptable standards of participant behavior include:

- (a). Treat opponents with respect; shake hands prior to and after contests;
- (b). Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of contest;
- (c). Accept seriously the responsibility of representing the school, team and parish by displaying positive behavior at all times;
- (d). Do not bait or taunt opponents;

Penalties:

- (a). Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from the next game and may be subject to further penalties;
- (b). Any player who physically abuses another player, participant or official may be suspended from play for the remainder of the season and may be disqualified from any further participation in the St. John's sports program;

## SPECTATORS AND PARENTS

Acceptable standards of spectator and parent behavior include:

- (a). Remember that the players are children and are playing for their enjoyment, not yours;
- (b). Parents should support children by attending scheduled games the children participate in.
- (c). Remain seated in the spectator area during games;
- (d). Respect the decisions made by officials;
- (e). Be a role model by positively supporting teams and not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches or officials. **DO NOT COACH FROM THE STANDS;**
- (f). Make no derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches, parents or the opposing team, officials or league administrators;

Penalties:

- (a). Participating teams and their coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators;



- (b). Any spectator or parent who displays poor sportsmanship may be removed from the facility by an official, their team coach, a league official or the host gym person-in-charge;
- (c). Any spectator or parent who interferes with the conduct of a game (or practice) may, at the discretion of the spectator's parish or league, be barred from attendance at subsequent sporting events;

St. John's Parish and the St. John's Sports Association will enforce this code. Complaints regarding violations should be first brought to the attention of the St. John's Sports Association.

**Volunteering:**

The St. John's Sports Association is volunteer organization administered by members of the parish community. Parents may be asked to volunteer at various events throughout the season.

I (We) have read the St. John's Sports Association Program code of conduct. I (We) agree to follow these guidelines in all St. John's Sports Association program activities. Additionally, I (We) agree to assist, if needed, when my (our) schedule permits.

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Signature of Player

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Signature of Parent(s)