

2015 FAIRFIELD COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The Fairfield County Football League (the “FCFL”) and its member associations in the towns of Darien, Fairfield, New Canaan, Norwalk, Ridgefield, Weston, Westport and Wilton (member organizations) know and appreciate your commitment as a coach to helping and working with the youth of our communities. In order to promote a fun, wholesome and healthy environment, the FCFL has adopted the following Coach’s Code of Conduct, which shall be agreed to by all coaches and assistant coaches participating in the program.

COACH’S CODE OF CONDUCT

1. I will emphasize at all times that playing football is an opportunity to be part of a team and to develop an awareness of oneself that is present in no other sport. I will de-emphasize playing for the “jacket” or the “trophy”, but rather promote the sport and competition. By instilling these ideals I will provide both players and parents with a better opportunity for success through their future participation in football and other sports.
2. Winning is a very important goal in coaching, but it should not be my only goal. I will keep in perspective that these young people have an interest in a great game. I will encourage and enhance that interest and not create an environment that promotes winning at all costs. I understand that coaching is a privilege, and that in my role as coach I am an ambassador of the game and a role model for my team. I understand that my behavior and actions will have a great influence on the future participation of these young players and their enjoyment of the game.
3. I acknowledge that the FCFL and its member organizations expect that all coaches and assistant coaches involved in the FCFL will adhere to a high standard of personal conduct.
4. I will minimize individual accolades and promote the team concept of success.
5. I will instill in my players the concepts of teamwork and sportsmanship that are consistent with the objectives of the FCFL.
6. I will avoid both verbal and physical confrontations with parents, other coaches and officials. I will never get into an argument with a parent in the presence of any player or others. If I have any criticism of an official’s performance, I will do it through proper channels by reporting it in writing to FCFL officials, and will never create a scene on the field during or after a game. I will communicate clearly to parents the expectations of the FCFL for all players, parents, and coaches.
7. I will not use, or permit anyone else to use, tobacco (chewing or smoking), alcohol or any illegal or controlled substance on either the practice field or playing field.
8. I will refrain from using any language which is racially or ethnically offensive or which is in any way discriminatory towards others. I will not use profane, obscene, or other off-color language.
9. I will not initiate physical contact with any player for disciplinary reasons.
10. I will attend any football clinics or coaches’ meetings required by the FCFL or my member organization.
11. I will be responsible for seeing that all team players are picked-up after practice/game by a responsible adult before I leave the field.
12. I will not use in a practice or game a player who appears to need medical attention until such time as competent medical advice is available.

Appendix A

13. I will, along with FCFL league officials, seek to control disruptive or excessively outspoken parents or fans.
14. I will accept the decisions of FCFL game officials.
15. I will never verbally abuse or criticize a player in front of spectators, but reserve **constructive** coaching/teaching for a later time in private or in the presence of other team members if others might benefit.
16. I will never criticize, belittle, antagonize, berate or otherwise incite an opposing team, it's players, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
17. I will demonstrate sportsmanship at all times.
18. I will be ever conscious of not running up the score. If my team has a commanding lead, and the outcome of the game is not in doubt, every effort shall be made to let all players play.
19. I will not permit an ineligible player to participate in a game.
20. I am responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to the following:
 - a. FCFL Constitution
 - b. FCFL Rules and Regulations applicable to my team level
 - c. FCFL Policies and Procedures
 - d. FCFL Coaches, Players and Parents Codes of Conduct
21. I will abide by the FCFL Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures at all times along with any and all decisions made by the FCFL Board of Directors.
22. I further acknowledge that if I violate any of the above guidelines I may be subject to disciplinary action by the FCFL or my participating member organization, which may include an oral or written warning, suspension from or termination of my position as a coach.

FCFL coaches have an obligation to report any serious or repeated violations of these policies or league rules to the FCFL President on an Incident Report Form. The FCFL President shall then refer the incident to either the Rules and Regulations Chairperson or Policy and Procedures Chairperson as applicable. The appropriate Committee will then investigate the incident and submit their findings and recommendation to the FCFL Board of Directors for a final decision. All FCFL Board of Directors' decisions shall be final and abided by.

I have read and understand the FCFL Coach's Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it and any disciplinary action imposed by the FCFL Board of Directors or by the member organization for which I coach.

Member Organization

Coach's Name

Date

Coach's Signature

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PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

The success of our youth football program requires a shared commitment among its coaches, players, cheerleaders, and parents as well as an acknowledgement and appreciation for the amount of time the coaches volunteer in order that so many children are able to participate in the program. Our program is intended to be a positive educational experience. Therefore, we ask you to pledge to be a positive role model for your child and others and to keep in mind that the coaches and board members are volunteers. The FCFL has always encouraged sportsmanship, responsibility, and good citizenship both on and off the field.

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials.
2. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect.
3. I will teach my child to play by the rules and resolve conflicts without violence.
4. I will never scorn or yell at any children for making a mistake or losing a game.
5. I will expect that my child’s practices and games be held in a safe and healthy environment.
6. I will praise my child for giving his/her best effort regardless of the game outcome.
7. I will respect the coaches’ time and ability and will not interfere with practices or games.
8. I will make every effort to ensure my child arrives to practices/games at the required time and I will notify the coaches immediately if my child is unable to attend a scheduled practice/game. In the event of unexcused absences from practices or games, I will accept the respective Coaches’ decision regarding any discipline and / or suspension(s). I will arrange for prompt drop-offs and pick-ups. I understand and agree that if my child does not fully participate in practices and / or games to the extent my child is able to do so, then at the coaches’ discretion my child may not be allowed to participate in the next practice and / or game as determined by the coaches.
9. I have the obligation to address any concerns that I may have at the time they occur with the Head Coach, member organization’s President or FCFL President.
10. I will never enter any part of the playing field to film or take pictures at any time during a game. I will sit in the designated seating area during a game. If a designated area is not available, I will maintain a distance of at least 10 yards from the players.
11. I will volunteer (if at all possible) my time to assist my child’s team when asked by either a coach or a team mom. This may include assisting with game day preparations; concession stands, writing newspaper articles, etc.
12. I agree to abide by the aforementioned Fairfield County Football League Parent Code of Conduct and acknowledge that any violation of the above guidelines may subject me to disciplinary actions by the FCFL or my participating member organization, which may include an oral or written warning or suspension from attendance at games and / or practices.

Parent/Guardian’s Printed Name	Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian’s Printed Name	Signature	Date
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PARTICIPANTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Fairfield County Football League requires that all participants (football players and cheerleaders) commit and adhere to the following Code of Conduct. FCFL believes in the three “S’s” – Safety, Sportsmanship, and Scholarship and expects student participants to exhibit them both on and off the field. **Any** violation of the following Codes could result in disciplinary action by the Member Organization and/or the FCFL that may result in warnings or suspension. Always remember that the game of football will be an enjoyable, fun team sport only when you conduct yourself as follows:

1. I will attend all practices/games except for illness, bereavement, religious obligations or schoolwork and I will notify my coach immediately if I am unable to attend a scheduled practice/game. Unexcused absences from practices or games (non-participation in a significant portion of one or practice(s) may be grounds for penalty or suspension). Penalties may include game suspension(s) and possible dismissal from the team.
2. I will arrive to practices/games on time, prepared and ready to go. I will participate in each practice to the fullest extent of my ability.
3. I agree to conduct myself with dignity as a participant of FCFL football and as a citizen of the community.
4. I will be fully accountable for my behavior and its outcome. Individual discipline is the only way to maintain team safety. I understand that discipline problems will not be tolerated and could result in my being suspended or removed from the team.
5. I will play by the rules and resolve conflicts without cheating or violence.
6. I will treat all participants including coaches and officials with respect and know that I too will be treated in the same manner.
7. I will not dispute or argue the decision of a coach or official.
8. I will not yell, taunt, or tease a teammate or opponent for any reason.
9. I will not use profane language or gestures.
10. I will avoid use of abusive drugs, steroids, alcohol and/or any other illegal substances, as they will impact my health and my performance on the field in a negative way.
11. I agree to put forth my best effort regardless of the outcome, always knowing that I gave 100%. This includes practice and applies to consistently finishing drills and exercises in preparation for other aspects of practice and / or games and in order to mitigate and prevent, to greatest extent possible, injury to myself and my teammates.
12. I will agree to maintain my studies and respect my teachers and counselors.

Participant’s Printed Name

Signature

Date