

BERTHOUD YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

_____ Directions to Parents: This Statement of Understanding will identify and inform you of the potential hazards that may be encountered by participants during the conditioning camps, practices, and games. This document will also identify the responsibilities of both parents and players and of the conduct required of both parents and players during all conditioning camps, practices, and games. Read, and if necessary, discuss this Statement of Understanding with a BYAA Board Member. As you carefully read this document, please initial each section to acknowledge your understanding. Please fill in all blanks and sign this form.

_____ The activities that you will encounter and participate in during conditioning camps, practices, and games will be physically demanding. When done correctly, using proper techniques and equipment, these activities can be done safely. However, there are inherent dangers with this activity that may result in serious injury or even death. The potential hazards include, but are not limited to: hypothermia, over heating, mental stress, sprains, strains, broken bones, spinal and neck injuries, paralysis, joint injuries, bruises, muscle soreness, and other physical trauma or injuries.

_____ The BYAA and its' coaches, staff, board members, and other volunteers are very much aware of these hazards and plan to help minimize them, but you and your child must be aware that they cannot be totally avoided or eliminated. Players incurring any such injury or condition that would prevent them from participating in practices or games should see a doctor and must present a signed release from a physician prior to resuming any team related activity.

_____ Participating in conditioning camps, practices, and games will involve very strenuous work, placing you in not only physically, but mentally challenging situations. It is important that your general health, respiratory, and circulatory systems to be in good condition. Football participants are required to have a current and signed physical on file with the BYAA before beginning any organized activity. If a participants health condition changes for any reason during or after any conditioning camp, practice, or game activity, consult a doctor and advise the appropriate coach or BYAA board member.

_____ As a parent or guardian, I will learn, and help enforce, the **Parent Code of Conduct:** Do not force an unwilling child to participate in this sport. Remember, children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment and positive development, not for your enjoyment. Teach your child to play by the rules. Teach your child that hard work and honest effort are more important than a win. Encourage your child to work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Teach your child to be gracious in victory as well as defeat. Do not ridicule or yell at your child or any other child for making a mistake. Set a good example with your behavior as children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by both teams. Do not publicly criticize the official's judgment and never their honor. Recognize the value and importance of coaches, officials and league members. Without them there would be no league. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports. Do not use tobacco products within 200 feet of the sporting field. Do not use alcohol or other drugs at any BYAA sponsored event or prior to attending an event.

_____ As a parent or guardian, I will teach my child, and help enforce, the **Player Code of Conduct:** Play because you enjoy the sport, not to please your parents or coach. Always play by the rules. Never argue with or complain about the officiating. Keep your temper under control. Do not retaliate if you feel you have been wronged. Focus on playing the game and on affecting the outcome with your best effort. Work as hard for the team as you do for yourself. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Work with your coaches, teammates and officials, be a team player. The use of alcohol, tobacco products and illegal drugs is strictly forbidden. Always strive to do your best in school.

_____ It is understood by parents and players that playing time is not guaranteed and will not be equal. Some sports leagues may have rules for playing time and the BYAA will abide by those rules. Coaches have control of playing time which will be determined by attendance in practice, overall performance, effort, respect shown to Coaches – teammates – opponents – officials, as well as any other reasonable criteria set up by the BYAA and the individual teams' coaching staff. Although winning is important each set of team coaches will be the sole judge of how they structure playing time.

_____ I have read this Statement of Understanding and as the responsible parent or guardian for this participant, I agree to the conditions and requirement as listed above. Both parents must sign.

Participant's Name (please print): _____

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____