

High Park T-Ball Association

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Coaches Code of Conduct

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

I therefore agree:

- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league, and I will ensure that they are followed at all times at games and practices.
- I will be a positive role model for the players and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or sporting event.
- I 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, or using profane language or gestures.
- I will teach my players not to engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent.
- I will not encourage any behaviours or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
- I will teach my team to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will demand that my team members treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, colour, sex or ability.
- I will teach my players that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that no child on either team will ever feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will praise my players for competing fairly and trying hard, and make all players feel like winners every time.
- I will never ridicule or yell at any players on either side for making mistakes or losing a competition.
- I will teach my team members never to ridicule or yell at any players on either side for making mistakes or losing a competition.
- I will emphasize skill development and practices, and how they benefit the players, over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- I will promote the emotional and physical well being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my team to win.
- I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never abuse or belittle the umpires.
- I will treat opposing coaches with respect. If there is a disagreement I will arrange a meeting off the field at a suitable time.
- I will demand a sports environment for youth that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.