



Douglas County Parks & Recreation

Youth Sports Code of Conduct & Ethics

Preamble:

Interscholastic and youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social, and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches, officials, and administrators to encourage youth participants to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event and I will provide support, care and encouragement for all participants in youth sports and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive supports for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other sports events.
2. I will not engage in nor encourage any behavior, which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, participant, official or any other attendee.
3. I will place the emotional, physical and social well being of the participants ahead of any personal desire for victory.
4. I will treat each participant as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional, physical and social development for the same age group.
5. I will support all participants, coaches, officials and administrators working with all participants, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
6. I will behave in a manner acceptable to community standards and not engage in nor encourage the use of profanity or any threats of verbal or physical violence directed towards any participants, coaches, officials or any other attendees, as well as administrators.
7. I will provide and demand a safe and healthy sports environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and require that the participants, coaches, officials, spectators and administrators refrain from use at all youth sports events.
8. I will ask my child and all other participants to treat other participants, coaches, officials, spectators and administrator with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation or ability.
9. I will do my best to make youth sports fun for all participants and remember that the game is for youth – not adults.
10. I will remember that this program is strictly recreational and a positive experience is the only outcome that I am focused on.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by a league, organization or school official.
2. Written warning issued by a league, organization or school official.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a youth sports event issued by a league, organization or school official who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection.
4. Suspension from multiple youth sports events issued by a league, organization or school official who is authorized to issue such suspension.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by a youth sports organization.

Coach's Signature _____ Coach's Name _____ Date: _____



Dear Youth NFL Flag Football Coach,

Thank you for volunteering with the Douglas County Parks & Recreation Youth NFL Flag Football Program. We are looking forward to a great season as we anticipate having over 300 participants in the program.

As in past seasons of this and other sports, we are requiring that all coaches and parents read and sign a code of conduct and ethics form. This document has been drafted to provide a blueprint for the coaches and parents as well as officials and administrators, to follow when participating in Douglas County Parks & Recreation sponsored youth sporting events and programs.

We are having our mandatory coaches' meeting and draft on Saturday, September 11, in the Annex Building located at 1327 Waterloo Lane next to the Douglas County Parks & Recreation Department Building (*please note the time of each division below*). Each meeting is scheduled to last approximately 2 hours per league and includes a discussion of rules, team & game formats and any changes from previous seasons. We will also conduct the paper draft. Equipment and Practice will be available at the clinic Sunday, September 12. **ONLY COACHES WILL BE ALLOWED AT THE DRAFT, NO PLAYERS.**

As part of our coaches meeting we will be offering coaches' some skills and drills to help teach their teams about NFL Flag Football and provide playing strategies for the season. This information will cover how to hold productive practices, coaching tips, and how to keep your team motivated, safe and fun. The schedule for each individual league will be as follows:

Division 1 (5-6 coed)	8am-10am
Division 2 (7-8 coed)	10am-12pm
Division 3 (9-11 coed)	12pm-2pm
Division 4 (12-14 coed)	2pm-4pm

For coaches who are coaching in more than one league, you will be required to attend each league meeting. If you cannot make these times, please let me know ASAP. A team representative can draft for you.

Douglas County requires background checks on all of our youth coaches. This is to ensure a high quality and safe program for all our participants. Any coach that does not complete this obligation will not be allowed to coach. The Douglas County Sheriffs Office will be conducting our background checks. Each coach is required to fill out a background check form and go the DCSO to complete the check. All information will be kept confidential and will only be used to determine volunteer eligibility. If you have any question concerning the background check process, don't hesitate to call the recreation department. I look forward to working with you and let's have a great season.

Sincerely,

A. Braun

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