

Union Township Recreation Sportsmanship Pledge

The Union Township Sportsmanship Pledge (Pledge) summarizes important elements of the youth sports experience and sets out your commitment and responsibility to sportsmanship and fair play. Acceptance is a condition of your participation in the Union Township Recreation Program.

Mission Goal:

The Union Townships Recreation programs first and foremost goal is to provide a fun, positive learning experience in a safe manner and environment for our resident children.

Definition:

Sportsmanship: conduct (such as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport. – Merriam -Webster

BE COOPERATIVE: Join teammates, opponents, coaches and officials in the mutual quest for excellence.

BE FAIR: Compete skillfully, guided by the letter and spirit of the rules.

BE GRACIOUS: Savor the challenge of a tough competitor and meet it with your finest performance, win or lose.

BE HONORABLE: Respect the game and everyone's contributions.

BE HUMBLE: Take success in stride - share the credit.

Application:

Coaches, players, parents, participants, officials, and any other attendees are expected to honor the Pledge and keep in mind the definition and five (5) aspects noted above regarding sportsmanship. Coaches will attend the mandatory preseason rules meeting that will be used, in part, to present and reinforce the Pledge and the aspects within it. Coaches will be expected to pass the Pledge information to their team players and parents and lead by example.

We encourage all adults who hear negative comments and/or observe inappropriate actions to **NOT** react in kind at the time of the occurrence. Coaches, players, parents, participants, officials, and any other attendee should report disrespectful, negative, and inappropriate behavior to a team coach and/or the Union Township Soccer Commissioner as circumstance would dictate. Follow-up as is appropriate will be completed. **Confrontation, verbal and/or physical, is not acceptable.**

Resolution:

The consequences of inappropriate behavior by coaches, players, parents, participants, officials, and any other attendees may include any or all of the consequences listed in the Pledge. Verbal and written warnings will be held as record. Verbal, written, and suspension and/or immediate ejections will be reviewed as a means of checks and balances to assure fairness in their issuance by the Union Twp. Recreation Committee Chairman. Suspensions from multiple games, a season, or multiple seasons will be reviewed by the Union Twp. Recreation Committee; which reserves the right to uphold, overturn, or modify.

**Union Township Recreation
Sportsmanship Pledge**

Union Township Sportsmanship Pledge

I pledge, to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating, and/or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

I will:

1. Conduct myself in sportsmanlike manner (cooperative, fair, gracious, honorable, and humble) with any and all coaches, players, parents, participants, officials, and any other attendee.
2. Be supportive and positive towards coaches, players, parents, participants, officials, and any other attendee.
3. Treat any coach, player, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, and/or ability.

I will not:

1. Engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or any other attendee.
2. Use drugs, (including tobacco) or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. Engage in the use of profanity, nor in verbal or physical threats of abuse aimed at any coach, player, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.
4. Initiate or participate in any fight or scuffle with any coach, player, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.
5. Strike or throw any object, nor take any other act of aggression towards anyone and/or thing if I am upset with any coach, player, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee.

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 the Union Township Soccer Commissioner and/or Referee who is authorized.
2. Written warning issued by Union Township Soccer Commissioner.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a youth sports event issued by Union Township Soccer Commissioner and/or Referee who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection.
4. Suspension from multiple games issued by Union Township Soccer Commissioner with review by and affirmation of the Union Twp. Recreation Committee.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension reviewed and issued by Union Township Recreation Committee.

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6. Treat any coach, player, parent, participant, official, or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, and/or ability.

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6. Engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or any other attendee.
7. Use drugs, (including tobacco) or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
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10. Season suspension or multiple season suspension reviewed and issued by Union Township Recreation Committee.

Signatory (print/sign): _____

Date: _____

Return this copy to Union Township Recreation Committee.