

## *Greeneville Parks & Recreation* *Sport Parent Code of Conduct*

We, the Greeneville, TN Parks & Recreation Department, along with the Greeneville Parks & Recreation Advisory Board have implemented the following Sport Parent Code of Conduct. The document and its' contents have been adopted by these two entities for the important message it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting their child in sports. Parents should read, understand, and sign this form in order for their children to be able to participate in Greeneville Parks & Recreation sports leagues.

Any parent or fan guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and that person will be suspended from the following two games. Greeneville Parks & Recreation league rules state: "Any player, coach, fan, or spectator who curses or threatens an official, scorekeeper, opposing coach, league official, employee of the Greeneville Parks & Recreation Department, or fellow fan will be suspended for at least two (2) games. When a player, coach or fan is ejected and receives a two (2) game suspension, that person will not be allowed to participate in the game that he/she has been suspended from. This two game suspension will also include not being in attendance at any Greeneville Parks & Recreation game as a fan or as a spectator until the entire suspension has been served. They are placed on probation, and if ejected again, they must be reinstated by the Greeneville Parks & Recreation Advisory Board."

Repeat violations may cause a multiple game suspension, or the season forfeiture of the privilege of attending all games that your child/children may play.

### **PREAMBLE**

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
- Good Citizenship

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

### **I/we therefore agree:**

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child 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 other sporting event.
6. I (and my guests) 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.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.

**(OVER, PLEASE)**



13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
15. I will respect the officials and coaches and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches or officials at the game site.
16. I will demand a healthy sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and profanity and I will refrain from such at all Greenville Parks & Recreation sporting events.
17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

**Furthermore, I/we understand that this agreement will be in effect and binding for any member of my child's family or any family friend who chooses to attend his/her games and practices. I/we will be responsible for conveying the description of the type of behavior that is expected from all fans and spectators at any Greenville Parks & Recreation game or practice.**

**Parent(s)/Guardian's Name (please print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*\* Greenville Parks & Recreation games, practices, and activities should be a positive experience for everyone involved. Negative behavior directed towards players, coaches, officials, and other parents conflict with the principles that we are trying to teach these children. Values like courtesy and respect do not interfere with the competitiveness of the game. We should all strive to lead our children by good examples. Let us all be more concerned with developing character than winning a game.*

**\*\*\* This form must be turned in at the Parks & Recreation Office with the registration form and registration fee.**