

NATIONAL YOUTH SPORTS SAFETY FOUNDATION, INC.

SPORT PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Children's sports are supposed to be fun – for the *children*. Unfortunately, many parents, fans and coaches don't realize that their actions, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting emotional effect on children. Too many children are leaving sports activities because the fun is unfairly taken away by adults.

That is why the **National Youth Sports Safety Foundation (NYSSF)**, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the healthy development of youth in sports, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Governors Committee on Physical Fitness and Sports, convened a consensus meeting with representatives from more than thirty sports, medical, educational and professional organizations to create the following **Code of Conduct** for parents and spectators to abide by at every game. The Code of Conduct can also be found at www.nyssf.org.

Parents, fans and coaches who follow this simple code can help reinforce what sports are all about... **BEING FUN FOR EVERYONE.**

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, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."¹

I therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.^{2,9}
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.^{6,9}
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.⁹
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.^{7,3}
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.¹⁰
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.^{3,6,7,8}
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.^{5,2}
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.^{6,2}
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.²
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.²
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.^{2,5}
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also deemphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.¹⁰
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.⁹
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.^{4,7}
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.⁶
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.⁴

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:⁹

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved
- Game forfeit through the official or coach
- Parental season suspension

Parent/Guardian Signature

References

The Sport Parent Code of Conduct has been compiled from the following national organizations and local youth sports league Parent Codes of Conduct:

1. Arizona Sports Summit Accord
2. Character Counts
3. Heartland Soccer Club
4. Kidsports
5. Mt. Laurel Soccer Club
6. National Alliance for Youth Sports
7. National High School Athletic Coaches Association
8. Pop Warner
9. Rosemont Area Athletic Association
10. USA Hockey

Additional recommended resources for conduct and sportsmanship for coaches and athletes include: Arizona Sport Summit Accord, United States Olympic Committee (USOC) Coaches Code of Ethics, and the Character Counts Coalition.



Bogle Junior High School Athletic Participation Agreement

In order to successfully participate in athletics, the following criteria has been developed and must be followed by ANY student wishing to participate in athletics.

Eligibility:

Players must meet and maintain academic standards of eligibility as outlined by the Arizona Interscholastic Association and the Chandler Board of Education. All players must have $\geq 70\%$ for the previous 4.5 week grading period.

In the case of ineligibility, the following will apply:

- (a) If a player becomes ineligible, he/she must attend practice in order to remain on a team.
- (b) Ineligible athletes are not allowed to dress/play in scheduled contests, but may travel with the team.
- (c) Ineligible athletes are required to attend mandatory study hall-tutoring programs until eligibility is regained (or a minimum of one week).

When an athlete has become subject to administrative action, the following will apply:

- (a) A player assigned out-of-school suspension may not practice or compete in athletics or school activities on the day(s) of the suspension.
- (b) An athlete assigned to in-school suspension may practice on the day(s) of suspension but may not compete in scheduled contests.

CONDUCT

As representatives of Bogle and the Chandler District, athletes are expected to maintain and demonstrate behaviors consistent with school expectations outlined in the student handbook.

Violation of any school rule or district policy is subject to administrative action in addition to individual coach's sanctions.

3. All athletes must earn an "S" rating in citizenship (no more than two "U" Grades). In the case of more than two "U's", see (b) above.
4. Athletes in possession of, or using drugs or alcoholic beverages are subject to administrative action:
 - a. 1st offense: Removal from the team for remainder of season.
 - b. 2nd offense: Suspension from all athletics for the remainder of year.
5. Athletes in possession of, or using tobacco products are subject to administrative action:
 - a. 1st offense: Suspension from team for 25% of scheduled contests.
 - b. 2nd offense: Removal from team for remainder of season.

These expectations are generated on a school-wide basis and will be enforced as such.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION WHICH SPECIFICALLY PERTAIN TO INDIVIDUAL SPORTS AND TEAMS MAY BE SET BY COACHES.

It is our hope that through a cooperative effort by coaches, athletes, and parents, the Bogle athletic program will reflect the positive values established by our school and the Chandler Unified School District.

(Please return this portion to Student Services, along with the physical forms.)

I have read the team expectations outlined above and have shared them with my parents. As a member of a BJHS athletic team, I agree to these guidelines.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date