



Township of Livingston LIVINGSTON SPORTS COUNCIL



CODE OF CONDUCT MISSION STATEMENT

The Township of Livingston and the Livingston Sports Council aspire to be outstanding educational athletic organizations that provide a high quality experience to every athlete. We are committed to creating a positive culture in which coaches, parents, fans, officials and athletes work together to achieve our mission. A high quality experience is one in which every athlete:

- ✓ Is coached using the principles of positive coaching;
- ✓ Has FUN playing the game;
- ✓ Feels like an important part of the team regardless of performance;
- ✓ Learns “life lessons” that have value beyond the playing field; and
- ✓ Learns the skills, tactics and strategies of the game and improves as a player.

LIVINGSTON SPORTS COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

The following athletic code of conduct is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the **State of New Jersey P.L. 2002, Chapter 74**.

Interscholastic and community sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches, spectators and officials to encourage athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in 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 sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. **I will not** engage in or encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
2. **I will not** engage in or encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
3. **I will not** smoke, permit my child, or encourage any other person, to smoke, or use drugs or alcohol while at a sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a sports event under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
4. **I will not** engage in or encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in the use of profanity.
5. **I will** treat and encourage my child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
6. **I will not** engage in or encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
7. **I will not** initiate, or encourage my child, or any other person, to initiate a fight or altercation with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
8. **I will** maintain direct supervision of all nonparticipating minor attendees in my care before, during and after all sporting events.
9. **I will not** engage in or encourage hazing.
10. **I will** report any information regarding hazing to a coach, Recreation Department, Board of Education, or youth sports organization official.
11. Athletes, coaches, and spectators are responsible for the care and use of all equipment issued or on site. Equipment and uniforms are to be worn and used only at the respective team, club or league events. All individuals will be held accountable for any equipment/uniform mistreated or not returned at the appropriate time.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING:

1. Coaches, athletes, parents and other attendees are representatives of the Township of Livingston and the school system and, at all times, must present themselves in a positive, respectful and sportsmanlike manner.
2. Bus behavior will be beyond reproach. Appropriate demeanor and reasonable volume must be maintained at all times. No abuse, distasteful or obscene language or actions will be permitted. All athletes are expected to arrive and return to the school as part of the team. At this point, the parent of the student will assume all responsibility. **At no time are students allowed to drive themselves to or from athletic contests. Traveling as a team promotes team unity, ensures proper supervision and allows for greater safety of our students.**
3. All athletes are required to be alcohol-free, tobacco-free and drug-free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Athletes who use and/or are in possession of these items are subject to disciplinary action as outlined by the Board of Education Policy. Attendance at parties or gatherings where alcohol, tobacco, or drugs are present is strictly prohibited. Athletes must depart or make a reasonable attempt to depart from such affairs or situations immediately once these substances are discovered. An athlete may be suspended from practice and play pending an investigation and may be subject to legal and/or disciplinary actions as per Board of Education policy. This rule does not restrict athletes from attending family functions where alcoholic beverages are present. The purpose of this rule is to deter underage drinking and/or substance abuse.
4. It is the responsibility of the head coach to decide which student/athlete will participate and at what level of play, as well as the amount of playing time that the student/athlete will have regardless of grade level.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a 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 Recreation Department, League, Sports Organization or School Official.
2. **Written warning** issued by the Recreation Department, League, Sports Organization or Board of Education.
3. **Immediate ejection** from a sports event issued by a Recreation Department, League, Sports Organization, School Official, or game official who is authorized by the Recreation Department, Board of Education, or Sports Organization to issue such an ejection.
4. **Suspension or banning** from multiple sports events issued by the Recreation Department, League, Sports Organization or School Official who is authorized to issue such suspension or banning by the Recreation Department, Sports Organization, or Board of Education.
5. **Season suspension or banning** or multiple season suspension issued by the Recreation Department, League, Sports Organization, or Board of Education.