



**TORRINGTON VALLEY PARK MIDGET
FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

Coaches Conduct

Coaches' Code of Conduct

1. *I will honor the fact that youth sports exists for the youth, not adults.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Maintain a positive, helpful and supportive attitude.
- b. Exercise your authority/influence to control behavior of fans and spectators.
- c. Exhibit gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- a. Accept and/or adhere to all league rules and policies related to participation of adults and youth. Play all players according to the participation rules established by the league.
- d. Fulfill the expected role of a youth coach to adopt a "children first" philosophy.
- e. Allow and encourage the players to listen, learn and play hard within the rules.
- f. Place emphasis on fun, participation and team.

2. *I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my children and other children involved.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Recognize the difference of each child and treat each player as an individual while demonstrating concern of their individual needs and well being.
- b. Encourage all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as a member of the team.
- c. Recognize that some physical tasks, drills and demands are not appropriate for all youth.
- d. Recognize that youth may vary greatly in physical, social and emotional maturation and consider these factors when setting up competitions when interacting with youth.

3. *I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players involved.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Establish practice plans that are interesting, varied, productive and aimed at improving all players' skills and individual abilities.
- b. Devote appropriate time to the individual improvement of each player.
- c. Conduct practices of reasonable intensity appropriate for the age and conditioning of the players.

4. *I will exercise good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players and officials at every game, practice or other league event.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Adopt the position, teach and demonstrate that it is our basic moral code to treat others as we would like to be treated.
- b. Abide by and support the rules of the game as well as the spirit of the rules.
- c. Provide an environment conducive to fair and equitable competition.
- d. Use the influential position of a youth coach as an opportunity to promote, teach and expect fair sportsmanship and fair play.

5. *I will make sure all children play in a safe, healthy environment.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Maintain a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions.
- b. Correct or avoiding unsafe practice or playing conditions.
- c. Use appropriate safety equipment necessary to protect all players.
- d. See that the players are provided with adequate adult supervision while under the coaches' care.

6. *I will insist that my team exercise good sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, fans and other players.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. Become knowledgeable, understand and support all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations and policies.
- b. Teach and require compliance of these rules among players, so that with this understanding good sportsmanship can be maintained.
- c. Teach techniques that reduce risk of injury to both the coach's own players and their opponents.
- d. Discourage illegal contact or intentional dangerous play and administrate swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

7. *I will place the safety and physical development of my players ahead of my personal desire to win.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- b. Use appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with league officials, players, game officials, parents and spectators. At no time is profanity acceptable.
- c. Include all players in team activities.
- d. Treat all players, league officials, game officials, parents and spectators with dignity and respect.
- e. Play all players according to the participation rules established by the league.
- f. Encourage youth to participate in other sports and activities to promote all aspects of their development.

8. *I will support other coaches and league officials.*

- **Expected behavior:**

- a. I will back and support league officials and coaches when working with my players and parents. I will enforce league rules.
- b. If I have concerns or questions, I will direct them to a league official or coach at an appropriate time, not during a practice or game. I will not criticize another coach, a league official or a game official in front of players or parents.
- c. I will cooperate and offer assistance whenever I can.

9. I will remember that children play, referees call, fans cheer and coaches TEACH. Anytime someone steps out of their area of responsibility, a strain is created on every other area involved.