

## **PARENT'S CODE OF ETHICS**

We, as adults, set an example that the children participating in the program will follow. The following code of ethics is to be adhered to by all adults. Please sign below stating that you have read and understand this code.

- A. Refrain from “sideline coaching.” It is inappropriate for parents to coach players from the sideline. It devalues the coaching staff, but it also confuses the player. Let the coaching staff that the board has approved of directors do their job. Don’t be a coach – be a parent. Offer encouragement and positive reinforcement. A sure way to dampen a child’s enthusiasm is with constant criticism. Parents should not embarrass their children by calling attention to themselves through loud, obnoxious, or rude behavior.
- B. The coaches and the league of football decide which team your son will be assigned to, and those decisions are final. We will not honor ANY request to place your son on a team. These decisions are made in the context of what is best for the organization, the teams at that given weight class, and that individual child. Again, these decisions are final.
- C. Do not criticize coaches, players, or cheerleaders on our own or opposing teams by word of mouth or gesture. Remember that your child learns more from your actions than your words. Practice good sportsmanship by being respectful to other players, parents, and coaches on both teams. Cheer for our team rather than against our opponents. Parents should respect the officials and their calls. It’s okay to disagree but inappropriate to disparage.
- D. Accept the decisions of game officials as being fair and being called to the best of their ability.
- E. Abstain from consumption of alcohol or the use of tobacco products on the playing and practice fields. This is a Pop Warner rule. Failure to abide by these rules could jeopardize the future.

- F. Do your best to ensure that all participants will have an enjoyable experience on their days with the Red Raiders. Parents should volunteer their services whenever possible. This shows the participants the value of being a team player.
- G. Non-certified adults may not enter the playing field for any reason.
- H. Occasionally, you may disagree with how the organization is managed or how your child's team is coached. As a member of the Red Raiders, your opinion is important. If you have suggestions for improvements, let them be known at a board of directors meeting. Sideline's gossip does nothing constructive for the children in the program.

If you disagree with the way your child's coach is handling the team or your child, you should take the following steps:

1. Speak to the coach privately. This step resolves most disagreements.
2. If you are not satisfied with the coach's response or feel uncomfortable speaking with the coaches, speak with the Vice President of Football / Cheerleading.
3. If the dispute remains unresolved, bring your issues to the next regularly scheduled board of directors meeting.
4. These steps are part of the Perth Amboy Red Raiders protocol. Not following the proper channels will only delay issues being addressed. If matters need to be heard by a league representative, they will take them to the league. Coaches will not entertain emails, phone calls, or visits when they are not followed by this protocol. If your disagreement involves what position your son is playing, please save yourself time and embarrassment. That is a coaching decision, and the Perth Amboy Red Raiders organization and Board of Directors will not entertain second-guessing a coaching decision unless there is a legitimate safety concern.

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Players Name

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Parent Acknowledgement