

# 2023 NYSSO Code of Conduct

## **NYSSO Player" Code of Conduct**

Youth football plays a vital role in encouraging physical, social and emotional growth of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage their youth football players to embrace the values of good sportsmanship, discipline and character development.

NYSSO requires that all participants commit and adhere to the following Code of Conduct. NYSSO believes in the three "S's" – Safety, Sportsmanship, and Scholarship and expects student participants to exhibit them both on and off the field. Any violation of the following Codes could result in disciplinary action by the NYSSO that may result in warnings or suspension.

NYSSO has adopted the following Player Code of Conduct

I hereby pledge to be positive about my youth sports experience and accept responsibility for my participation by following this Players' Code of Ethics Pledge.

- Have fun!
- Be a good sport (win or lose); Be honest, fair and always show good sportsmanship to all coaches, players, officials, parents and fans by demonstrating good sportsmanship at every game and practice.
- Learn the value of commitment to the team. I will attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify by coach if I cannot.
- Put personal goals aside for the betterment of the team.
- Show courtesy and respect to teammates, opponents and coaches.
- Realize that athletic contests, including practice sessions are educational experiences and opportunities.
- I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct.
- I will not engage in rude behavior.
- I will treat everyone, including coaches, parents, players and officials, with respect, regardless of race, creed, color, nationality or gender.



## **NYSSO Parents' Code of Conduct Pledge**

Parents are vital to the development of young athletes. Whether sitting in the stands or helping out as a volunteer, parents must set a positive example. Parents and adults involved in youth sports should be models of good sportsmanship and lead by example on and off the playing field.

NYSSO has adopted the following Parent Code of Conduct

- Give constructive criticism during a private moment, never in front of other parents, players, officials, spectators, etc.
- Support your coach and refrain from excessive "sideline coaching" from the stands.
- Refrain from using profanity.
- Abide by a doctor's decision in all matters of players health and injuries and physical ability to play.
- Accept the decisions of officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of the officials. Parents must stay off the field and remain under control in order to set a good example for players and other spectators.
- Do not criticize an opposing team, its players, fans, coaches or team by words or gestures.
- Support the coaches, players and officials and help teach the value of commitment to the teams, sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- Inappropriate behavior is cause for immediate ejection from the stands. Repeat offenses will result in being barred from future games and league sponsored activities.
- Parents will not encourage their child or any other person to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participants, officials or any other attendee.

## **NYSSO COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

The primary goal of coaches should be the development of boys and girls to become better citizens. The players must be taught sportsmanship and fair play, and these teachings should always govern their behavior while at practice and at games. Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of all players, members of the coaching staff and spectators. This includes the time periods before, during and after league games and other events. Improper conduct, in the judgment of the game officials, on the part of the players, coaches or spectators may result in penalties, expulsion and suspension or forfeiture of the game.

NYSSO has adopted the following Coaches Code of Conduct and Ethics

- The coach will not criticize players in front of spectators.
- The coach will accept the decisions of officials.
- The coach will not criticize the officials, the opposing team, the coaches, fans or parents through language or gesture.
- The coach will emphasize that good athletes are good students, and both are physically and mentally alert.
- The coach will strive to make every football activity serve as a training ground for life and as a basis for good mental and physical health.
- The coach will emphasize that winning a game is the result of teamwork.
- The coach shall not use abusive or profane language in front of anyone connected with the game.
- The coach will refrain from “running up” the score against an opponent. This includes keeping in the first defense at all times.
- The coach shall not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- The coach will set an example in personal conduct at all times.
- The coach will not smoke or use any form of tobacco while on the field of play during games, scrimmages or practices.
- The coach will treat each player, opposing coach, parent and commissioner with respect and dignity.
- The coach will learn the strengths and weakness of his/her players in order to place them into situations where each has a maximum opportunity to achieve success.

- The coach will protect the health and safety of his/her players by insisting that all of the activities under his/her control be conducted for their psychological and physiological welfare, rather than the interests of adults.
  
- **EVENT ATTENDEE HEALTH STATEMENT:**
- All event attendees (employees, players, coaches, fans) must be able to say "yes" to the entirety of this statement before entering a NYSSO event.
- I have not tested positive for COVID-19, had a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, body ache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or been around anyone with these symptoms (with the exception of medical personnel and first responders), in the last 14 days. I am not currently under a state, county, city or other stay-at-home order. I understand that it is my responsibility to protect myself from contracting COVID-19 or other infectious diseases while at this event. By entering the event, I am indicating that I, (1) am in good health, (2) am responsible for protecting myself from COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, and (3) accept all responsibility and agree to hold harmless event operator and staff, complex owners, and sanctioning bodies from any damages that occur as a result of my attendance at the event.

NYSSO tournament director has the right to make the final decision on all rulings.