



**SMMA Athletic Association  
Youth Sports Standards for Coaches, Players & Spectators**

**Player's Code of Conduct and Player Commitment**

- Refrain from unsportsmanlike gestures, talk, language, or profanity. Players will not taunt or tease players on the opposing team.
- All players will show respect towards the officials and their decisions. All decisions made by the officials are to be accepted as final. No player should argue a call or judgment. Only the Manager and Coach should be questioning calls and judgments.
- No team member shall throw his or her equipment or any object in disgust on or off the playing field at any time.
- Accept the coaches' decision regarding playing positions and the amount of playing time within the rules set forth by CYC. (see coaches section for playing time requirements)
- Understand that the SMMA Athletic Association reserves the right to release any player from the team for poor sportsmanship by the player and/or the player's family during games or for other reasons to include but are not limited to poor attitude. All players will follow the guidelines set forth for the team and the program. The player or player's parents have the right to be heard by the board before a decision is made.
- Understand that the coach may impose additional rules, guidelines and/or policies that, I am required to follow and failure to comply with the rules, guidelines and/or policies is a violation of your commitment.

## **Parents' Code of Conduct and Parent/Guardian Commitment**

- Obey all rules and regulations of the SMMA Athletic Association and CYC
- Refrain from giving the children instructions during the game - allow the coaches to manage the team and game.
- Refrain from bench visits. Unless there is an injury, medical reason or to supply water.
- Get your child to practice and games on time.
- Remember children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment and yours
- Teach your child always to play by the rules.
- Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than a victory.
- Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Your child will then be a winner, even in defeat.
- Do not ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or for losing a game.
- Set a good example. Children learn best by example.
- Do not publicly question an official's judgment and never their honesty. Accept the official's decision as final and respect the fact that they too make mistakes.
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches. Give them their due respect. Without them, there would be no program.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sporting activities.
- If you have a problem/conflict with the Manager or Coaches, do not approach them during or after a game. Call the coach to discuss the matter or set a meeting with the Manager or coach to discuss the matter 24 hours after the issue.
- **24 Hour Rule**
- Accept the coaches' decision regarding playing positions and the amount of playing time. (see coaches section for playing time guidelines)
- Understand that any removal of your child and/or a family member from a game will result in a two (2) game minimum suspension for the child and your family. Child must attend and sit on the bench for the two suspended games in uniform.
- If a child is dismissed for poor behavior any other reason from practice the manager has the discretion to suspend the player for a minimum of 2 games.
- Understand and acknowledge that the player registration payment is non-refundable. If a child is dismissed or voluntarily leaves the parents are not entitled to a refund and all monies are forfeited. Certain situation will allow for a refund. These will be approved by the Executive Board of the SMMA Athletic Association.
- Understand that the coach may impose additional rules, guidelines and/or policies that I am required to follow and failure to comply with the rules, guidelines and/or policies is a violation of your commitment.

## **Coaches Code of Conduct and Commitment**

- Will maintain disciplinary control of their players at all times that they are under their jurisdiction.
- Will address the Umpire(s)/ referee(s) in a respectful manner and accept all judgment calls as final.
- Will abide by all SMMA Athletic Association and CYC rules and regulations.
- All SMMA coaches shall play all their players a minimum of 25% of the game. Each player must play in all three volleyball games. The coach has a right to sit a player for infraction but this must be communicated to the player and the game officials before doing so. If possible it must also be communicated to the parents or guardian of the player before the game. This is about development and a player cannot develop on the bench.
- Will set a definite example of sportsmanlike conduct for the players to follow regarding umpires, opponents and spectators.
- Will conduct themselves toward opposing players as they would toward their own players.
- Will maintain control of the spectators without denying the spectators their right to sportsmanlike conducts such as cheering, shouted comments, etc., as long as these actions do not become derogatory, abusive or defamatory in nature.
- Will make certain that their players observe all the rules of good sportsmanship at all times avoiding bickering with umpires, unsportsmanlike “riding” of opponents, and any unnecessary rough play that is likely to cause injury.

### **PLAYING TIME REQUIRMENT FOR ALL SMMA ATHLETIC TEAMS**

This includes all preseason games, regular season games, playoff games and any other tournaments a team might enter even if the tournament is not associated with CYC.

1. All SMMA players shall play a minimum of 25% of the game.
2. **Volleyball**- All eligible players on the bench must participate in each game of each match
3. **Baseball/ Softball**- In all divisions, all eligible players on the bench must be allowed to play two full innings in the field during regulation seven innings, one of which must be played during the first three innings the other within the first six innings. Player must be on the field for all three outs.
4. The coach has a right to sit a player as a means of discipline, but this must be communicated to the player and the game officials before doing so. If possible it must also be communicated to the parents or guardian of the player before the game begins.
5. This is about the development of young athletes and a player cannot develop on the bench.
6. Players should be allowed to play multiple positions and have multiple responsibilities especially at the younger levels.

## SMMA Athletic Association Youth Sports Standards for Coaches, Players & Spectators

As we attempt to promote the most positive experience for the youth of SMMA, we are committed to the following standards. All coaches and spectators should read the following standards and sign below to indicate their willingness to abide by them. As parents/guardians of a player, you are responsible for yourself, as well as, all guests and family members who attend the game. In addition, the team's coach will be held accountable for the behavior of their team's spectators and will be disciplined accordingly if spectators do not uphold these standards.

*ALL COACHES AND SPECTATORS WILL:*

1. Comply with the policies and procedures of SMMA and CYC.
2. Respect all participants, coaches, staff, officials and volunteers at every practice or youth sports event and encourage all children to do the same.
3. Refrain from abusive or inappropriate language or gestures, or physical contact toward officials, volunteers, coaches, staff and participants.
4. Accept the decisions of the officials as being fair and performed to the best of their ability. Spectators shall never go onto the court or playing field, or approach the official scorekeeper, while the game is in progress or immediately after the event. Allow the coach to take all questions, rule interpretations or concerns to the appropriate umpire or league official.
5. Refrain from giving the children instructions during the game - allow the coaches to manage the team and game. This includes visits to the bench area. Expect for Medical Reasons.
6. Help ensure the safety of the playing area by reporting any unsafe hazards, removing trash, leaving food and beverages outside the gym or playing area when requested, refraining from the use of tobacco within 50 yards of the playing field or program site and refraining from use of alcohol or other drugs at or immediately prior to all youth sports events.
7. Abide by a doctor's decision in all matters of health, injuries and ability to play.
8. Remember that the game is for youth – not adults.

***Penalty for non-compliance:***

If a coach or spectator is ejected for these or any reason, they may not attend the next two (2) games played. If a player and/or family member is ejected then the player and their family may not attend the next two games played. When such action is taken, the individual must meet with the SMMA Vice-President prior to returning to any event. If a coach or spectator is ejected a second time or acts out physically towards another individual, they will not be allowed to attend any SMMA or CYC sports activity for at least one (1) year from the date of the incident. When such action is taken, the individual must meet with the SMMA President, Vice-President and possibly the SMMA Athletic Association Board prior to returning to any event.

*I/We agree to help make youth sports fun and help teach our players good sportsmanship. I/we understand and will abide by the above standards: (please sign and return this form to your child's coach)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Player please print)

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Coach please print)