

Parent Code of Conduct*

Please set realistic goals for your child that are achievable within your child's mental and physical capabilities. Remember your child is not a professional athlete, so please be realistic in your expectations of him and the unpaid volunteer coaching staff. The game is for our youth – NOT ADULTS – and participation in youth sports is a privilege, not a right. Appreciate that the coaches and Peninsula Youth Football are striving to provide the best sports program for your child and participation is intended to be for learning and for fun. Enjoy the experience and remember:

TEAM COMMITMENT

- Help your child enjoy the youth sports experience. Do whatever you can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with the team as needed, and/or providing transportation.
- Take practices and games seriously by making sure that children are available and on time as scheduled. Collect children in a timely manner when practices and games are finished.
- Be a fan of our team, not just a fan of your child.
- Be responsible for yours and your guests' behavior who attend the games.

RESPECT

- Respect all players, including members of opposing teams. All players are contributors to a team and should be positively encouraged by all parents.
- Respect the volunteer coaches, the officials and all football personnel working at the sports venue in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- Instruct your child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability. You, as parents, are the best example to your children regarding sportsmanship and respect toward other persons.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

- Be a positive influence on your child, coaches, team, league and community:
 - Do not make insulting or critical comments to players, parents, officials, or coaches of either team. Such behavior does not promote team spirit but breaks apart a team and will not be tolerated.
 - Support your athlete in their quest to be their best AND their role on the team.
 - Positively cheer for our team and applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not advise the volunteer coaches on how to do their job.
- Do not coach your child or other players from the bleachers or sidelines.
- Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice – it is destructive. Help remove the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.

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SPORTSMANSHIP

- Display good sportsmanship at all times. The children are learning to become team players and work toward a common goal. Be non-judgmental in support of their attempts and their outcomes.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example. Do not instruct your child to harm any other participants, coaches or officials.
- Do not embarrass yourself and your child by yelling at players, coaches or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Remain in control of your emotions and remain in the spectator area during games & practices.

COMMUNICATION

- After games, thank the opposing coaches, players, officials, referees, volunteers and anyone involved in conducting the event.
- Let your child communicate their needs to the coaches. Coaches prefer to hear directly from your child.
- If you have a concern, talk to the head coach at the appropriate time and place (i.e. never before, during, or immediately after a contest). Please wait 48 hours after a game. Schedule a meeting via email if very important.
- Acknowledge that the coaches are unpaid volunteers and donate a significant amount of their time to grow the sport of football and teach your child the game of football. Do not create a negative environment on this team for any of the volunteer parents supporting this team.

**Based on a code of conduct published by Steve Parker and available at coachparker.org*