

Code of Conduct



Brookings Youth Football (BYF) strives to provide an opportunity for all interested Brookings youth to develop their football skills. Emphasis is placed on teaching and reinforcing sound football fundamentals. Youth are encouraged to gain an understanding of teamwork, proper sportsmanship, and the rules of the game. Highest priority is given to making the experience an enjoyable one for young athletes. The following Codes of Conduct for all players, parents & coaches have been set forward to achieve these goals.

These Codes of Conduct are an agreement between BYF players, parents, and coaches to abide by the rules and regulations of the game, as well as maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. The Codes of Conduct can be summarized in the following three principles: (1) Demonstrating a positive attitude; (2) Setting a good example; and (3) Abiding by rules & regulations of the game.

1. Demonstrating a positive attitude

Players, parents, and coaches are expected to show a positive, respectful attitude for everyone involved in the sport. Criticism and disrespect for officials, opponents, coaches, or fans undermine the purpose of sport and encourage behavior contrary to the spirit of the game and the mission of BYF.

2. Setting a good example

Each person associated with BYF is accountable for his/her own behavior at all times on or off the field. Parents, coaches, and other adults should remember that children learn by example – it is up to the adults to set good examples. BYF will not tolerate conduct that is detrimental to the sport, the participants, or the community. Such conduct includes: Vulgarity by coaches, players or parents; harassment or belittling of officials, coaches, or players; verbal abuse, threats, or physical violence towards anyone before, during, or after a game; and the taunting of opposing players, coaches, and parents. We require thorough self-restraint by all participants – both players and adults. Team must exercise appropriate control over those who fail to control themselves.

3. Abide by rules & regulations of the game

The referee's job is a difficult one. Parents or players who believe their team has been treated unfairly should speak to their coach after the game. Coaches should inform the appropriate league or tournament officials about blatant officiating problems.

Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of officials, opposing players, coaches and fans at all times. Sportsmanship begins with respect.

Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in:

- *A Parent being suspended and/or removed from practice/game/tournament.*
- *A Coach being suspended and/or removed from practice/game/tournament.*
- *A Player being benched by the team's coach for player or parent misconduct before, during, or after game(s).*
- *A player, Parent, Coach, or family member could be released from Association.*

Any violations of the code of conduct will be reviewed by the BYF Board to determine the final outcome of the violation. Player, parent or coach will be indefinitely suspended during this review period.

Parent's Code of Conduct



Parents are required to show respect for all players, coaches, officials, spectators, and other parents. Your encouragement and good example will do more to ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline than any other influence. While winning is important, playing well and fairly is the essence of the game.

As a BYF parent, I will:

- Encourage my child to play by the rules and demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Remember the game is for my child and not for me. I will not force my child to participate in sports but will support their desire to play their chosen sport. Make football fun for my child.
- Not embarrass my child by yelling at players, coaches, officials, spectators, or other parents. Show good sportsmanship.
- Emphasize skill development and practices. Focus on how my child can help the team.
- Know and study the rules of the game. Support the officials on and off the field. Set the right example for my child.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat. Enforce the positive points of the game. Will not degrade the play of teammates.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of my child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them. Ask questions before speculating.
- During games and practices, I will trust the coaches and their decisions without intervening.
- Understand my child's right to play in an environment free from harassment and/or abuse in any form. Report any such incidents to the head coach or BYF Director immediately.
- Please do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These times can be emotional for both parents and coaches. Discussions within 24 hours of an event are not allowed because they usually do not promote the best resolution of an issue.

I have read and will strive to follow the above parent's code of conduct.

