

I. Behavior: All members of PPO are expected to show excellent sportsmanship and represent PPO, the AYFL and the City of Pembroke Pines with the highest standards. In promoting the ethics, safety, and spirit of youth football, PPO has adopted the following Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is binding upon all PPO participants: players, parents, coaches and board members. Violations of this Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

A. General Code of Conduct: PPO's mission statement is to provide the children of Pembroke Pines an opportunity to play competitive tackle football in a safe, structured and enjoyable environment. We believe that a "safe, enjoyable environment" is one that affirms and fosters respect for human dignity and diversity.

PPO will not tolerate harassment, disruptive behavior, or discriminatory behavior, and expects everyone in our organization to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with our mission and core values. All members of our organization are expected to use appropriate behavior and act in a sportsmanlike manner when in the presence of and in contact with players, opponents, parents, spectators, cheerleaders, coaches, board members and officials.

What is considered unsportsmanlike conduct (including harassment, disruptive behavior, and discriminatory behavior):

- Saying words, jokes, or comments based on an individual's sex, race, ethnicity, age, religion, weight, or any other legally protected characteristics.
- Taunting, baiting, or using 'trash talk'.
- Using inappropriate comments or actions that may be construed as sexual harassment.
- Threatening to harm a person or property directly or indirectly, with or without a weapon.
- Being hostile and uncooperative after a reasonable request
- Throwing, kicking, or abusing equipment or other objects.
- Fighting.
- Using intimidating actions (bullying).
- Causing a person to fear for their safety.
- Swearing or using profanity.
- Using obscene gestures.
- Showing excessive celebration during a game or at the immediate conclusion of a game.

B. Player Conduct: In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section I, Part A (above), players will not:

1. Leave the team-designated area(s), unless excused to leave, by a coach, parent or guardian.
2. Instigate flagrant or violent fouls on the practice or game field.
3. Harass, bait or show objectionable demonstration or dissent regarding any official's or coach's decision.
4. Refuse to abide by an official's or coach's decision.
5. Disobey or attempt to circumvent PPO or AYFL rules and regulations or the intent thereof.
6. Use illegal substances or act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, PPO, or AYFL. This Player Code of Conduct applies to players during practices, games, team-sponsored events, PPO & AYFL-sponsored events, or any time the player is wearing a PPO jersey.

C. Parent Conduct: In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section I, Part A (above), parents will not:

1. Harass, bait or show objectionable dissent towards any official, board member, coach, player, cheerleader, spectator or other(s).
2. Interfere with coaches or players during a game or practice.
3. Be in the coaching box, player's area, or on the game field/area prior to, during, or at the conclusion of a game, unless the AYFL Rep, or Head Coach has given permission to do so.
4. Use tobacco, alcohol or illegal narcotics in front of players or cheerleaders during practices, games, team-sponsored events or PPO/AYFL-sponsored events.
5. Be present during practices, games, team-sponsored events or PPO/AYFL-sponsored events while under the influence of alcohol or illegal narcotics.
6. Act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, and their community, PPO or AYFL.

Further, parents are strongly encouraged to stay in the bleachers and away from the players during game time to let coaches coach and to let the players focus on the game, their teammates, and their coaches.

D. Coach and Board Member Conduct In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section I, Part A (above), coaches and board members will not:

1. Harass or bait or show objectionable dissent towards any official, player, coach, cheerleader, spectator or other(s).
2. Use tobacco, alcohol or illegal narcotics in front of players or cheerleaders during practices, games, team-sponsored events or PPO/AYFL-sponsored events.
3. Be present during practices, games, team-sponsored events or PPO/AYFL-sponsored events while under the influence of alcohol or illegal narcotics.
4. Act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, and their community, PPO or AYFL.

Coaches and board members will:

- Show the proper respect to all and be held to the highest standards of moral conduct and character both on and off the field.
- Report any Code of Conduct or rule violation to an appropriate PPO executive board member. This includes violations made by players, parents, coaches, board members, or other parties.

II .Incident Reporting and Management: If you have witnessed a player violating the PPO Code of Conduct or have been subject to a player's unsportsmanlike conduct, contact the player's head coach immediately. If the head coach is unavailable or if you believe it would be inappropriate to contact the head coach, contact a PPO executive board member. If the unsportsmanlike conduct is exhibited by a parent, coach or board member, contact an appropriate executive board member.

Upon receiving a report of unsportsmanlike conduct, the head coach will immediately report the incident to a PPO executive board member. The executive board member will inform the PPO Commissioner. Depending on the severity of the incident, the Commissioner may inform the full executive board of directors.

All parties are encouraged to raise concerns, in good faith, without fear of reprisal or retaliation. PPO will not tolerate retaliation against anyone who reports a concern in good faith. Anyone who engages in retaliation is subject to disciplinary action.

III Disciplinary Actions: At least one PPO executive board member (more if necessary and appropriate) will thoroughly investigate all incidents or reported concerns. Any player, parent, coach, or board member who violates the PPO policies, or AYFL Bylaws, will be subject to appropriate corrective action. Disciplinary action can range from a verbal or written reprimand to suspension from practices, suspension from games, and removal from the PPO Football Program. The decision to suspend or remove someone from the program will be determined by a vote of at least two thirds of the PPO executive board of directors after thorough review of the situation.

Anyone who does not abide by the PPO Policies, or the AYFL bylaws, can and will be asked to leave the game or event, and may be barred from attending any other PPO/AYFL-sponsored game or event.

Any coach, parent, board member, spectator, or anyone else – whether associated or not associated with PPO or AYFL – who is ejected (removed) from a game or practice is automatically suspended from attending and/or participating in the next scheduled game or practices for a week. Anyone ejected from a game or practice must leave the premises immediately. While on suspension, the affected person (parent, coach or other) may not attend any practices or games in which any PPO team participates.

NOTE: PLAYERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICE

If a parent or guardian is ejected from a game or practice or is removed from PPO, their player may also be suspended from games, practices or removed from the program pending Executive board recommendation.

The PPO executive board of directors shall reserve the right to impose any penalties or disciplinary actions it deems necessary and appropriate for violations of the PPO Policies, or this PPO Expectations Contract.

IV. Expectations Contract Signature Page:

Please read, sign, and return this page only. Keep the rest of the contract for your reference.

Player:

I have read the Pembroke Pines Optimist Football (PPO) Expectations Contract, or have had it read to me. I understand the rules and responsibilities that come with being a player at PPO. I understand that it is a privilege to play football for PPO, and that privilege can be revoked if I do not abide by the expectations detailed in this contract.

Parent/Coach/Board Member:

I have read the Pembroke Pines Optimist Football (PPO) Expectations Contract. I understand the rules and responsibilities that come with being a member of PPO. I understand that it is a privilege to be associated with PPO, and that privilege can be revoked if I do not abide by the expectations detailed in this contract. I hereby release PPO from any and all liability should I not comply with all requirements necessary for myself and/or my son/daughter to be associated with PPO.