



Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

Special Olympics Kansas has implemented the following Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct for the important message it holds about the proper role of parents/guardians in supporting their child and other athletes in sports. Parents/guardians should read and understand this Code of Conduct prior to their child participating in Special Olympics Kansas activities and events.

Any parent/guardian guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and be suspended from the following game or the next day's activities. Repeat violations may cause a multiple game/day suspension.

Preamble

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

- Trustworthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Caring
- Good Citizenship

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

I/We therefore agree:

I/we will not force our child to participate.

I/we will remember that individuals participate to have fun.

I/we will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety my child or the safety of others.

I will learn the rules of the sport and the policies/procedures of SOKS.

I/we, and my guests will be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators.

I/we, and my guests will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.

I/we will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.

I/we will teach our child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

I/we will demand that our child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect.

I/we will teach our child that doing one's best is more important than winning.

I/we will praise the athletes for competing fairly and trying hard.

I/we will never ridicule or yell at any athlete for making a mistake or losing a competition.

I/we will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my own child.

I will respect the officials and their authority during competitions and never question, discuss or confront coaches at the playing field and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.

I/we will demand an environment free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and we will refrain from their use at the events.

I/we will refrain from coaching my child or other athletes during games and practices unless we are one of the official coaches of the team.