

# CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY



Saratoga Springs Recreational activities are made available to youth and adults to enjoy fun and wholesome recreational programming that teaches character and sportsmanship. Saratoga Springs Recreation supports the belief that all recreational programming and experiences should be positive and safe with sportsmanship and enjoyment the primary goal. To achieve this goal, Saratoga Springs Recreation strives to provide a safe environment for participants of these programs and to protect them from harm to the best of our abilities. To that end, all participants and spectators must be held accountable for their behavior and zero tolerance given for intentional violation of this Code of Conduct.

## EXPECTATIONS

- Treat all parties involved with dignity and respect.
- Use appropriate language, tones and volume when communicating. When in doubt, remain silent.
- Become knowledgeable, understanding and supportive of all established guidelines, rules, policies and procedures applicable to related programming.
- Recognize/acknowledge Saratoga Springs Recreational programming as a privilege that can be rescinded for violation of this Code of Conduct Policy.

## Coaches/Spectators/Players

- There will be a zero tolerance towards any inappropriate or abusive behavior from coaches, spectators, or players towards game officials.
- Any coach, spectator, or player who feels the necessity to:
  - Persistently or willfully question or challenge the rulings of the officials
  - Berate or abuse officials
  - Display conduct which is inappropriate in a youth recreation environment

should expect to be removed from the game in question and be required to leave the facility. This ejection may be issued without warning by the officials, site supervisor or any official representing Saratoga Springs Recreation.

Saratoga Springs Recreation officials will offer to escort the offending individual(s) from the facility. If the offending individual(s) refuses to leave the premises, local authorities will be contacted to enforce the ruling.

Coaches are to “set the example” for good behavior, sportsmanship and professional courtesy.

- You may disagree with an official’s call, do not make your comments personal, angry, or derogatory.
- Insist that your players and fans demonstrate good sportsmanship toward opposing coaches, players, and officials.

- Insist that all of your players shake hands after the game and demonstrate grace in winning and dignity in losing.
- Do not teach, tolerate, or allow taunting of other teams, “trash talking”, or foul language at any point.
- Lead by example; compliment good plays by opposing players, shake hands with opposing coaches before and after the game, and do not get confrontational with officials.

## Penalties

### Coaches:

A coach ejected from one game will automatically be suspended from the next game; a second ejection during the season will result in automatic suspension for the remainder of the season, subject to the coach’s right to an Appeal; serious misconduct could result in additional discipline. If an assistant coach is given a technical this will go on the head coaches record too. In the instance that this coach is suspended for a season, the next time they want to coach there will be an automatic technical foul on their record.

### Athletes:

An ejection for “fighting” will result in an automatic suspension of an athlete from their next game, and possible further discipline. A second ejection for “fighting” during one season will result in a suspension for the rest of the season, subject to the athlete’s right to an appeal.

### Spectators:

Ejection from a game for misbehavior will result in your suspension from attending any other games that night; a second ejection from a game will result in their suspension for the rest of the season.

Any physical contact with a game official, coach, recreation representative, or opposing players, or parents of opposing players will cause law enforcement to be brought in for possible criminal prosecution, and you may be permanently banned from attending games.