



# Codes of Conduct

The mission of the All American Youth Football and Drill Team (AAYFDT) is to provide a safe, fun learning environment for the youth of our community. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for authority figures (Directors, Coaches, and Game Officials). Our focus is on developing good life skills through the sports of football and cheerleading. The AAYFDT will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, or participants from any Parent, Participant, or Spectator. Spectators, as well as the participants and coaches, are expected to abide by the code of conduct described here at all AAYFDT events. While most of the adults and children in the program will abide by this code without being instructed, it is being published to protect the children, the integrity of our program, and emphasize the values of the AAYFDT.

## COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Team Coach, you (through your actions and words) set the example for your participants, parents/guardians, and spectators. You set the tone and lead by example. Read the participants, spectators, and parents Code. Understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport. Actively promote these Codes. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each participant above all other considerations, including the development of performance. Ensure that each participant is correctly dressed with the necessary safety equipment (helmet, mouthpiece, pads, etc.) before being allowed to play. Get treatment for an injured participant immediately. Co-operate fully with medical personnel in the best interest of the participant. Never, either physically or mentally, push children beyond their abilities. The game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well-being. Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance. Never condone unacceptable behavior. Accept the decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final. Always be prompt, courteous, and direct when dealing with the League Officials, opposition Coaches, and Referees. Read the AAYFDT Official Rules of Competition and assist your participants and parents in understanding them. All coaches must be certified through USA Football.

Agree to a background screening of your application with regards to your suitability to work with children.

## ATHLETE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

### I Will:

- Have fun!
- Arrive at all practices and games on time or provide an appropriate excuse beforehand.
- Be a good sport (win or lose), be honest and fair.
- Learn the value of commitment to the team; sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
- Show courtesy and respect to my teammates, opponents, coaches and officials.
- Know that athletic contests are educational experiences.
- Give complete attention to the instructions of my coaches and league officials.
- Accept the fact that a violation of this code may result in my suspension or dismissal as a participant.

### I Will Not:

- Use profanity, talk "trash", or taunt others before, during, or after any practice or game.
- Display any unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Criticize my teammates or participants from other teams.
- Act in any way that may incite spectators.

## PARENTS/SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

### As a parent or spectator, I will:

- Support the coaches, participants, and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
- Support my child's team and help my child and the AAYFDT make athletic contests positive educational experiences.
- Direct constructive criticism of my child's team program to a coach and/or club board member at an appropriate time, 24 hours after the incident. I will work toward a positive result for all concerned.
- Accept decisions of the game officials (including coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final.
- Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times.
- Emphasize that good athletes strive to be good students that are physically and mentally alert.
- Strive to make every football/cheerleading activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health by being present to support the children.
- Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance (including tobacco) on both the game and practice fields.
- Stay behind the designated spectator line during practices and games.

### As a parent or spectator, I will not:

- Interfere/interrupt the coaching staff during games or practices.
- Criticize officials or coaches, direct abuse or use profane language toward them, or otherwise subvert their authority.

- Criticize an opposing team, its participants, coaches, or spectators by word of mouth, by gesture, or by deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Undermine, in work or deed, the authority of the coach or the AAYFDT.

## CONSEQUENCES OF BEHAVIOR

At any AAYFDT event, practice, or competition, any adult or child who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude to, or does not control their language or actions with a participant, official, coach, spectator, AAYFDT or booster club board member will be asked to leave the event. He or she will receive written warning, within 72 hours, regarding their behavior. If the spectator fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove the spectator.

Any adult or child that commits a second similar offense will be banned from AAYFDT events for the remainder of that season.

Any adult or child that commits a third similar offense will be permanently banned from the AAYFDT.

### The offense count does not reset each year.

Any adult or child who physically assaults anyone will be banned from the AAYFDT for one year from the date of the offense. After one year, the parent may apply for reinstatement. If the adult or child commits a second offense, he or she will be permanently banned from the AAYFDT.

The term physical assault includes, but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking, or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.

By signing below, we (the participant's family) admit to have read, understand, accept, and agree to comply with the AAYFDT's Codes of Conduct and Expectations.

Club/Squad (Drill Team, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, or Senior)

Participant's Name or Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Head Coach's Signature

Date