

UCSL Parent Code of Conduct

We, the Union County Softball League (UCSL), have implemented the following Parent Code of Conduct for the important message it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting their child in sports. Parents must read, understand and sign this form prior to their children participating in our league. In signing this Code, I understand this to serve as my one and only verbal warning. I also understand that any disciplinary action taken encompasses all UCSL activities and facilities regardless of what sport the violation occurred in.

All UCSL fields and proximity are now tobacco free facilities. There is to be no use of tobacco products within 100 feet of any UCSL field while in use for UCSL purposes (games, practices, meetings, etc). Violators will be addressed as outlined below.

Any parent guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and be suspended from the following game. A second violation will result in an indefinite suspension from all UCSL facilities and activities pending review. Before privileges can be re-instated the offending parent must meet with the UCSL Board to formally request re-instatement. Any further violations will result in up to a one year forfeiture of all privileges of attending games and a ban from all UCSL facilities. UCSL Board and its representatives reserve the right to implement any and all disciplinary action at the Board's discretion depending on the severity of the violation.

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, and
- Good Citizenship.

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

I therefore agree:

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.

- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- I (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 will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well being of the athletes.
- I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- I will promote the emotional and physical wellbeing of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- I will respect the officials and their authority and will **never** question, discuss, or confront officials/coaches, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

- I accept the responsibility for educating myself, my children, and all of my guests on the significance of UCSL Local Rule #12 in providing a safe and fun environment in which my child can learn and play the game of softball.

Parent/Guardian Signature

12. There will be **NO UNSPORTSMAN LIKE CONDUCT** or profound language permitted at any time on or off the field, in the dugout, or by either the coaches or the players. Anyone using profanity will be dismissed from the game and will be required to leave the facility immediately. In addition, coaches are responsible for the parents and other spectators conduct. One warning will be given by the umpire to the coach of the offending party. If the harassment/conduct does not cease, the umpire has the right to declare the game a forfeit against the offending team. UCSL Board will cooperate with local associations to determine further disciplinary actions as indicated by the severity of the violation. Please refer to the UCSL Parent Code of Conduct for disciplinary procedures.