



Epsom Youth Athletic Association

Code of Conduct



EYAA Mission Statement

The Epsom Youth Athletic Association (EYAA) was organized to provide and promote athletic programs for all youth in and about the town of Epsom, NH. The purpose of the association is to implant in the youth of the community ideas of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence so that they may be fine, stronger, and happier youth who will grow to be responsible and healthy adults. Currently, EYAA provides soccer, basketball, softball, baseball, and tee ball programs for Epsom children in grades K through 8.

Coaches Code:

1. Consider it an honor and a privilege to coach the youth of our community.
2. Keep in mind at all times that I am a youth sports coach and that the recreational experience is for the children and not for the adults.
3. Head coaches are responsible for their conduct and the conduct of their players, assistant coaches, and their team's parents and fans.
4. Profanity by coaches, players, parents or fans will not be tolerated.
5. Coaches will treat the officials, referees, or umpires with respect and instruct players & parents to do the same.
6. Players/coaches shall not make significant dramatic body language or vocally complain about a call.
7. Only the head coach may address the officials at a stoppage in play.
8. Be reasonable in your demands on the young players' time, energy, enthusiasm and their performance within athletic programs. Safety and health of players is your number one concern.
9. Impress on your players that they must abide by the rules of the game at all times. Teach them the principles of fair play and sportsmanship and model these principles at all times.
10. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
11. Ensure that your players' experience is one of fun, enjoyment and building skills of the game.
12. Players should never be yelled at or ridiculed for making mistakes or losing a game.
13. Set a good example and be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Youth players need a coach they can respect.
14. Enlist the support of your team's parents in your efforts to instill the proper attitudes and values in the players.
15. Keep informed about sound coaching principles and growth and development principles of children.
16. Check equipment and facilities that you use. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of your players.
17. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured child is ready to play again.
18. Respect other coaches' practice and game times. With one gym and limited fields and parking, please consult your sport commissioner prior to changing any scheduled game or practices.

Parent's Code:

1. At all practices and games, a parent, a guardian or other trusted adult chosen by a child's parent must be present. Parents, you must notify your coach if another adult is taking responsibility for your child in your absence.
2. Practice is essential to your child's development. Please make every effort to have your child at all practices.
3. At the coach's discretion, he/she is to determine the level of parental participation on the court or on the field during practices and games.
4. EYAA does not require its coaches to adhere to equal playing time. Fair playing time will be practiced by all teams. Keep in mind that attendance, participation, effort, attitude and other observable signs of commitment may influence playing time during a game.
5. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sports. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours.

6. Teach your child and encourage them to always to play by the rules.
7. Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game.
8. Do not ridicule or yell at your child or any other for making a mistake or for losing a game.
9. Set a good example by applauding good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.
10. Children learn best by example.
11. Do not publicly question the referees' judgment.
12. Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches, referees and officials. Without these volunteers, EYAA would not be able to function.
13. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse. Be aware of your behavior along the sidelines during games.
14. If you have a question for the coach, concerning an incident with your son or daughter that directly relates to a game or practice, then **please make the coach aware of the issue and your concern within 24 hours**. Please allow coaches time to respond to your questions.
15. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during the games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
16. I will respect the player bench area by keeping away if I am not an official team coach. If I need to approach the bench area for any reason, I will respectfully ask the coach for permission to enter the area. I will do this in the least interruptive manner possible. Keep in mind that this is taking all youth player safety into consideration.
17. In the event that I have a concern regarding the team or my youth player, I will do my best to communicate with the Coaching Staff directly. If situation arises where this is not possible, I need to approach the Sport Commissioner that oversees that specific sport.

Player's Code:

1. Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.
2. Practice is essential to your development. You must be prepared to work hard all of the time, do your best
3. and do your part to be on time while having all necessary items for practice or game play.
4. Play by the rules, and never argue with or complain about the official's calls or decisions.
5. In regard to sportsmanship and fair play, control your temper and most of all, resist the temptation to
6. retaliate when you feel you have been wronged on the court or playing field.
7. Concentrate on playing and on affecting the outcome of the game with your best effort.
8. Work equally hard for your team as for yourself.
9. Be a good sport by cheering all good plays, whether it is your team's or your opponent's.
10. Treat all players as you would like to be treated.
11. Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and do your best.
12. Cooperate with your coaches, teammates, opponents and officials.
13. Always remember you are representing EYAA and the Community of Epsom.

I understand that, as a coach, player, parent or spectator, if my conduct or language is deemed to be unsportsmanlike by EYAA, I may be asked to leave the playing area in which my son(s) or daughter(s) games and/or practices are being held. Depending on the severity of the infraction, I may be suspended from attendance at the next game and/or practice, multiple games and/or practices, or the season forfeiture of the privilege of attending all games and practices.

Signature of this acknowledges receipt and adherence to EYAA's Code of Conduct

_____	Coach's Name Date
_____	Parent's Name Date
_____	Player's Name Date
_____	Coach's Signature Date
_____	Parent's Signature Date
_____	Player's Signature Date