

## **Sports League Behavioral Policies**

The following policies have been adopted for the Widefield Parks and Recreation programs and facilities. These rules of conduct will be strictly enforced. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure all players understand and follow these rules.

### **Sportsmanship Policy**

Each team is responsible for the actions of its members before, during and after competition. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including intimidation and infliction and/or threat of bodily harm, will not be tolerated and will result in ejection from competition and/or facilities.

No game is important enough to warrant physical or verbal abuse of officials, participants or spectators. Please remember that these games are not professional sporting events. No one's job is on the line. The officials are doing the best they can, just like the players. Please make the utmost effort to win with class, lose with dignity, and treat the game officials, staff and opponents with respect.

### **The following behavior is unacceptable for any player, coach or spectator:**

- Pushing, striking, threatening (verbally or physically) another player.
- Pushing, striking, threatening (verbally or physically) an official/umpire or staff member.
- Refusal to abide by officials' decisions, including dissent and verbal abuse directed toward officials.
- Use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or tobacco while in a School District or Widefield Parks and Recreation facility.
- Failure to follow Widefield Parks and Recreation and/or School District regulations.

### **Sanctions:**

Sanctions for behavior violations can range from verbal or written warning to a permanent ban from Widefield Parks and Recreation programs. The Widefield Parks and Recreation staff (Sport Coordinators and Director) will determine suspension lengths, penalties, or rule interpretations.

- Game officials have the authority to penalize for unsportsmanlike behavior. This is a judgment call by the official and cannot be protested.
- All players, coaches or spectators ejected from a game will be suspended for a *minimum* of one contest. Anyone ejected may be required to meet with Widefield Parks and Recreation staff prior to returning to coaching, playing, or spectating.
- Anyone ejected from a game must leave the facility within 5 minutes or the game may be forfeited and law enforcement may be called.
- If two or more players from a team are ejected in the same game, the game will end and the offending team will lose by forfeit.

- If a coach or player is ejected from more than one game in a season, the player will automatically be suspended for the remainder of that season, at minimum.
- Suspended players may not play in additional Widefield Parks and Recreation sports leagues while suspended.
- Suspended coaches or players may not participate as spectators in Widefield Parks and Recreation sports leagues during their suspension timeframe.
- All suspensions are subject to a probation period determined by the Sports Coordinator. Once a player(s), coach, and/or team has been placed on probation, an improvement plan will be created and their conduct will be evaluated, throughout the remainder of the season.
  - Further conduct violations during the probationary period will result in a suspension for the remainder of the season, at minimum.
- All fees paid will be forfeited.

### **Due Process:**

- All ejections will be considered final.
- All ejections are subject to review by the league coordinator or his/her designee.
- All ejections result in a mandatory one-game suspension with possible extended suspensions after review.
- The league coordinator will determine if an extended suspension is necessary based on the Suspension Review Board's findings. In the event of an extended suspension, the league coordinator will notify the team captain and/or suspended person of any further disciplinary action taken.