



Neshannock Athletic Association
Code of Conduct

1. Purpose

NAA values sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among all players, coaches, officials and spectators. This Code of Conduct has been established and adopted to ensure the guiding principles of NAA are understood and met by all individuals associated with this organization.

This Code of Conduct applies to all sports and activities associated with NAA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, drafts, practices, NAA sponsored games, and any activities, attended under the NAA banner, run by other organizations.

The Code of Conduct for coaches, players, parents, and spectators will be thoroughly discussed at the pre-season coaches meeting. In addition, this Guiding Principles, Code of Conduct, and Disciplinary Procedures will be available on the NAA website for review.

The following codes of conduct will be strictly enforced.

2. Players Code of Conduct

Each player will ensure that his/her playing conduct is that of a young lady or gentleman fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the player is expected to:

- a. Know the rules and abide by them.
- b. Respect the game officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions during the play of the game.
- c. Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoiding the use of abusive language or profanity, humiliating remarks, gestures of ill temper, and physical assault upon another player at any time.
- d. Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team and demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of game. Be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- e. Respect all NAA staff.
- f. Follow all facility rules and regulations, respecting at all times the property of others.

- g. Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy and manners of each individual player.
- h. Attend every practice and game that is reasonably possible, and notify the coach in advance if the player is unable to attend.

3. Coaches Code of Conduct

The Head Coach will be provided with copies of the Code of Conduct prior to the start of the season. Each Head Coach is responsible to see that their assistant coaches, players, and spectators abide by the respective Code of Conduct. It is also the coach's responsibility to review the Codes of Conduct with their assistant coaches and players.

Each coach will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the coach is expected to:

- a. Know the rules and abide by them.
- b. Instruct players in the rules and coach his/her team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
- c. Place the emotional and physical well being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- d. Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions in a disrespectful or abusive manner.
- e. Ensure that all building rules and regulations are followed by the players and spectators.
- f. Ensure that fans of his/her team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at game sites, and assist the game officials in maintaining control of spectators during the games.
- g. Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team both during the play of the game and at its conclusion, win or lose.
- h. Respect all NAA staff.
- i. Teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- j. Maintain control of his/her emotions and avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.

- k. Instruct team support personnel in their responsibilities in accordance with established rules and procedures.
- l. Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy, and manner.

4. Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

Each parent and spectator will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult or youth who are positively encouraging all participants to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, each parent and spectator is expected to:

- a. Respect the rules of the game.
- b. Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions or from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful, or abusive manner.
- c. Cheer for their team in a positive, supportive manner.
- d. Place the emotional and physical well being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- e. Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoid the use of abusive language, profanity, and gestures of ill temper, and refrain at all times from making hostile or negative remarks about the opposing team.
- f. Respect all NAA staff.
- g. Follow all building rules and regulations, respecting at all times the property of others.
- h. Leave facilities in a timely fashion after the conclusion of a game.
- i. Demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of a game, win or lose. Do not interact in a negative fashion with fans, players or coaches of the opposing team or game officials.
- j. Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy, and citizenship of its fans.

5. Offensive Actions

Any individual violating the Code of Conduct set forth above shall be subject to penalties and sanctions as set forth in the Disciplinary Procedures below. In addition to conforming to the requirements of the Code of Conduct above, the following actions are specifically prohibited

(“Offensive Actions”):

- a. Refusing to abide by an official’s decision.
- b. Verbally abusing or assaulting any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or NAA staff.
- c. Physically assaulting, abusing, or threatening any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or NAA staff.
- d. Stalking, tailing, or attempting to intimidate any player, coach, official, parent, spectator, or NAA staff.
- e. Engaging in any other type of violent behavior, such as throwing equipment or other objects.
- f. Engaging in any lewd or sexual behavior, physically abusing a player, or engaging in any inappropriate physical contact with a player.
- g. Unless specifically allowed by the rules of the sport, pushing, shoving, or striking any player.
- h. Using drugs or alcohol while coaching, attending, or participating in any NAA sport or other NAA event.