

Odell Recreation Sports Association

Parents Code of Conduct

The following guidelines and rules shall apply in all activities for parents within the Odell Recreation Sports Association's youth program:

1. Know the rules and abide by them.
2. The practice of any parent approaching a coach, referee or opposing team player before, during, or immediately following a game to voice a complaint is strictly forbidden.
3. Do not question an official's call. You may not agree with a call, but it is not your job (or the player's or coach's either) to officiate the game. An official's call should never be argued by anyone. Accept the call and move on.
4. Never make a scene in front of the team as it is embarrassing for you, your children, the coach, the team, and the program; and chances are nothing will get resolved.
5. Act your age. Youth sports are for the kids. If you find yourself becoming too emotionally involved in what is happening on the field, take a step back and relax. Remember, your childhood is over. Give the young players the freedom to enjoy themselves.
6. Be seen, not heard. Nothing is better for a young player than having their parents on hand to watch them play. And nothing is worse for a player than hearing a parent booing, taunting, screaming or making comments at, or about, players, coaches, fans or officials (that includes your team as well as your opponent). Offer applause and cheers of encouragement for both teams following a good play or a great effort, otherwise keep quiet.
7. Be responsible. Get your kids to practice and games on time.
8. Set the example by showing respect, dignity, and total sportsmanship at all times.
9. Parents must not coach from the spectator's side during games or practices. Chances are you do not know what the coach's strategy for the game is or any specific instructions they may have given your child. This type of behavior only confuses the players and can have a detrimental effect on the game.
10. Parents should not criticize their child on any part of the player's game. Leave this to the coaches since it may cause confusion and erode the player's confidence.
11. Do not criticize your child's coach to your child or other parents; if you are not happy with the coach, you should raise the issue with the coach.
12. Help the young player to focus on the performance and not the result. Avoid the post-game analysis. Do not analyze your player's performance following every game. If you do, chances are they will avoid talking to you at all after a game, or worse yet, not want you at the games at all.
13. Winning is not as important as the performance. Put winning and losing in perspective. Games have winners and losers. Keep reminding your child about this reality and the need to deal with both outcomes. Young players should avoid getting too cocky when they win and too upset when they lose.
14. Motivate through confidence. Try and identify a positive from every game or practice to help build confidence. A young player's sense of achievement is the greatest motivator.
15. Support all the players on your child's team. Do not criticize any player.
16. Do not criticize the opponents, their parents, coaches, or the referee.
17. Parents will not question the coach's during or after practices or games. The same applies for questioning the referees during or after games. Parents belong in the stands, not behind the bench. Positive and encouraging comments are welcome. Negative or detrimental comments directed at coaches, players, referees, or other spectators are not acceptable. Obscene and/or disrespectful gestures will result in more severe penalties.
18. I will remember that, as a fan, I represent the Odell Recreation Sports Association and the community. I understand poor behavior during practices, games, or tournaments may result in expulsion from the Odell Sports complex. (I must wait inside or next to my car in the parking area for my son or daughter). If this happens repeatedly, it will result in expulsion from the program.
19. Remember, all Odell Rec coaches and administrators are volunteers. Respect the fact that they are willing to give so much of their time to your child. Persistent irresponsibility and disrespectful behavior will result in sanctions up to and including dismissal from this program.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE ABOVE RULES AND GUIDELINES. I ALSO AGREE TO ACCEPT ACTIONS TAKEN FOR FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES.

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN NAME (Print)

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

DATE