



Mission Statement and Parent Code of Conduct

“Our mission is to instruct children and youth in a variety of recreational sports, while providing a safe and friendly environment. Together, we are working to create a less stressful and more fun youth sports experience for our children.”

The Ringgold Youth Sports Association is in operation for the benefit of the children who participate in athletics. The manner in which participating parents conduct yourselves has a direct effect on Ringgold Youth Sports Association’s ability to provide a positive experience for all of the children who participate. The following rules and guidelines have been set to ensure the success of our association, and adherence to these is mandatory for participation in all Ringgold Youth Sports Association functions, including but not limited to practices, games, tournaments, team parties, etc. Parents need to understand that by allowing your child to participate in sports with RYSA, you are agreeing to support and promote this Code of Conduct and Mission Statement. Furthermore, by participating in RYSA you are hereby agreeing that if you as parents/guardians fail to conform your conduct to the code mentioned on this form while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in a RYSA event you will be subject to disciplinary action. As a participating parent, one needs to understand that if you maliciously and publically project a negative image which attacks or harms the reputation of, but not limited to, players, coaches, officials, parents, volunteers or events related to RYSA, one will be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action taken will involve, but is not limited to, the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by a field official, RYSA board, or a board member.
2. Written warning issued by the RYSA board
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a RYSA event issued by a field official, RYSA board, or a board member.
4. Suspension from multiple RYSA events issued by a field official, RYSA board, or a board member.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by the RYSA board

1. Parents/guardians will keep the proper perspective and remember that their child plays seasonal sports for his/her enjoyment, not for the parents, and that the overall objective is to provide a fun, sports oriented, learning experience for the children.
2. Parents/guardians will encourage their child to play by the rules.
3. Parents/guardians will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit their children.
4. Parents/guardians will encourage good sportsmanship at all times by setting a positive example for any child participating in any activity associated with the RYSA.
5. Only uniformed players, manager, coaches, and officials are allowed in the dugout. Unauthorized persons on the playing fields will be asked to leave. After one warning the

official may declare the game a forfeit if an unauthorized party refuses to leave.

6. No player, manager, coach, scorekeeper, or spectator is permitted to call an opposing player by name, number or position while player is participating in a game. After one warning the official may eject the offending party from the game.

7. Parents/guardians will remember that everyone associated with RYSA, is a volunteer, and that they are taking time out of their lives to provide a sporting opportunity for their children.

8. Parents/guardians will leave the coaching to the coaching staff, and will encourage their child to play in a manner consistent with the team's strategy or plans.

9. Parents/guardians will respect and support the league officials and their authority during games.

10. Parents/guardians will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place. Parents/guardians will understand that if something does occur in which they disagree; they will calmly seek an appropriate solution, at the appropriate time.

11. Parents/guardians will demand that their child treat all players, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.

12. Parents/guardians will never ridicule their child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.

13. Parents/guardians (and any invited guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, using profane language or gestures, etc.

14. Parents/guardians will demand a sports environment for their child that is free from drugs and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all sports events. In addition, Parents/guardians will not attend any RYSA function while being under the influence of any drugs or alcohol.

15. Parents/guardians, out of consideration for others, will use tobacco products at a considerable distance from the children and playing fields, and only use them in designated posted areas.

16. Parents/guardians will respect the property and equipment used at any sports facility, both home and away.

17. Parents/guardians will respect and refrain from verbal or physical altercations with, including but not limited to, opposing team's parents or their own child's team parents, as well as any other players, coaches, officials, volunteers, etc. while attending a RYSA related event.

18. Parents/guardians will refrain from use of emails and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) to maliciously and publicly project a negative image of themselves which attacks or harms the reputation of RYSA, including but not limited to, opposing team's parents or their own child's team parents, as well as any other players, coaches, officials, volunteers, etc.

19. Unless there is a true emergency or urgency, I will follow the proper protocol for complaints, grievances, or discrepancies with RYSA related volunteers or events through the proper "chain of command": (1) Team Head Coach (2) Sport Director/Commissioner (3) RYSA Board Member(s) (4) League Directors.